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The Reverse
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Somebody.

THE

LIFE and ADVENTURES

OF

Sir *Bartholomew Sapſkull*,

BARONET.

NEARLY ALLIED TO MOST OF THE

GREAT MEN in the three Kingdoms.

BY SOMEBODY.

VOLUME THE FIRST.

LONDON:
Printed for J. WILLIAMS, No. 38, next the
Mitre Tavern, *Fleet-Street*. 1768.

Thoughts upon the *Frontiſpiece.*

THE *reverſe* of *Somebody* can be the likeneſs of *Nobody* .... ſo far the *frontiſpiece* is truly *original* .... and the *artiſt* cannot be charg'd with copying the *manner* of thoſe important authors who make *themſelves* the pre-*face* to their work.

Treachery is nearly related to *cowardice* .... *Somebody* has experienc'd the truth of this *affinity* .... having made *friendſhips* with *men*, who by a conſtant *ſubſidy* of *ſmiles* ſeem'd in *alliance* with his *face*, yet *behind* his *back* have *confederated* with his *enemies* to *weaken* his *credit*, and *interrupt* his *pacific* Inclination ... He intimates his *contempt* for thoſe *people* by *turning* his *back* upon *them*, that they may continue their *game* until *proſtitution* grows tir'd of their *ſervice* .... or *conſcience* has *prepared* the *anguiſh of remorſe* as a *puniſhment* for their *perfidy*.

Somebody, beyond a doubt, muſt be a *perſon* of *genius* and *politeneſs*, as the *elevation* of his *toupet* (in the back front) at once demonſtrates the *height* of faſhion, and the *altitude* of underſtanding.

TO

SOMEBODY.

I Have obſerv'd, in the language of moſt dedications, the ſame indirect turn of mind .... which convinces me, that authors have ever, figuratively, the ſame object in view as I have .... for they ſeem to ſwell the praiſes of their patron, only to compliment themſelves, by making the world believe they have inſcrib'd their work to SOMEBODY.

SOMEBODY, without doubt, is deſerving of the greateſt encomiums.

It is he, whoſe abilities, as a ſtateſman, qualify him to regulate the complicated movements of government .... whoſe ſocial virtues give ſpirit to the endearing actions of domeſtic life .... whoſe integrity was an ornament to both .... and whoſe honour and ſteadineſs would be a credit to every ſtation which wiſdom may raiſe him to .... or faction leave him in.

I ſhould apply theſe requiſites to Mr. Grenville .... but alas! Grenville is the generical name of a plant, which Ignorance and Diſloyalty (two unſkilful botaniſts) have claſs'd with the genus of the order of Nobody .... But the approbation of fools is cenſure, and (thanks to SOMEBODY) in the lexicon of the preſent times, Diſloyalty and Ingratitude are ſynonimas.

SOMEBODY

SOMEBODY deſerves cenſure for uſing an inquiſitorial authority to ſeize upon a gentleman's papers .... pry into his mind, and ruin him upon the evidence of his own thoughts .... For aſſociating general warrants with the laws of our country, thereby coupling Vice with Virtue, and degrading the wiſdom of one with the vanity of the other .... For making prerogative ſubſervient to his luſt, and loading the eſtabliſhment of England with uſeleſs places, and Ireland with penſions, to favour the object of it.

SOMEBODY came to Scotland in the year 1745 .... he is a contraband commodity, therefore let thoſe who ſmuggl'd him in diſplay his perfections .... he is not the idol of my fancy .... It was one of his name who made the ſcaffold the high road to immortality .... and Ruſſel

poſſeſs'd

poſſeſs'd Everybody's head by loſing his own on a ſcaffold .... That ſpirit of freedom which volatiliz'd the *caput draconis* to the higheſt heavens, left SOMEBODY a perpetual inheritance in the mind of every true Engliſhman, which will endure till Time ſhall conſume even Nature itſelf.

SOMEBODY muſt be very ſignificant, as Everybody attempts the character.

The venal commoner is ever impatient till his Majeſty, by creating him a peer, flatters his conceit to the idea of SOMEBODY.

Mrs. Sophy, the chambermaid, decks herſelf in the borrow'd plumes of lady Jay Peacock, her miſtreſs, that ſhe may appear at her ſubterraneous routs for SOMEBODY.

The

The unnatural mother will leave her huſband and family, to be the ſtrumpet of a man of quality, that by his weakneſs ſhe may ſtrengthen her intereſt, and provide for a parcel of vagabonds, that amongſt them ſhe may paſs for SOMEBODY.

The merchant leaves his own affairs unſettled in one houſe to perplex the nation's in another, that he may ſtrut upon Change, and look like SOMEBODY.

The wretch of fortune will immolate his honour with his thouſands at the ſhrine of Adultery, to bribe the goddeſs to influence her paramour, to proſtitute the Royal confidence to make him a Right Honourable SOMEBODY .... yet

SOMEBODY .... ſuperior to all general rules, and ſingular in action and ſentiment,

ment, from an inconſiſtency of temper, woo'd the hand of power to overſhadow his name with a title, that he might paſs through the world as Nobody.

SOMEBODY will be offended at this dedication, becauſe I diſſent from the eſtabliſh'd doctrine of dedicators, and ſubſtitute myſelf the object of my idolatry! for in the vanity of my heart I have been led imperceptibly from my firſt view of inſcribing this volume to ſome diſtant perſon, and brought the compliment home to myſelf, becauſe in the writing of it I have all along conſider'd myſelf

SOMEBODY.

THE

THE

LIFE and ADVENTURES

OF

Sir BARTHOLOMEW SAPSKULL, Bart.

CHAPTER I.

Contains what many readers will object to.

THE principal motive that actuates every man to become a member in the republic of letters, is either popular reputation or private benefit..... The writer of the following

lowing ſheets declares entirely againſt the firſt, and propoſes to himſelf but a ſmall ſhare in the laſt.... His chief endeavour, and indeed his only pride, is to amuſe, and divert away a ſerious fit from his ſplenetic readers; not to mention a ſecret ſatisfaction in gratifying a ſort of vanity, in perpetuating a name ſo univerſally connected!.... ſo highly rank'd!.... ſo eminently diſtinguiſh'd!

Here that ſpark of vanity, which before only glow'd in my breaſt, now burſts into a flame, and urges me to take a retroſpective view of my family, in order to ſhew the antiquity of it.

How far it is conſiſtent with the duty of an author, impertinently to trouble the public with a fulſome detail of his own pedigree, I leave the public to determine

termine .... and however abſurd and ridiculous it may appear to them, my own particular judgment intrudes, and reconciles the incongruity.

Sir Bartholomew Sapſkull, my grandfather, was a baronet of very ancient deſcent in the county of Cornwall .... He had (beſides a good real eſtate) very conſiderable appointments under the government .... had formerly been ſent abroad in a public character, and was principally concerned in ſome of our late glorious, diſintereſted treaties .... and although my grandfather had no intellectual ſingularities about him, it is ſtill no wonder he was ſo particularly employed by the miniſters, when we conſider he had wiſdom enough, at all times, and upon every occaſion, indiſcriminately to adopt the judgment, and

adhere to the maxims of the majority... a rule in politics which never fails of ſucceſs .... and add to that prevailing recommendation, he was nearly ally'd to moſt of the great men in the three kingdoms.

Many of the lords, ſpiritual and temporal, deſcended from the ſame ſource .... and he has been often heard to ſay thus much, that the houſe of ..... (here indeed the baronet always made a reſpectful pauſe) was filled with his relations .... but whether he meant the houſe of Bourbon, or houſe of commons, neither can I venture, or the houſe of commons pretend to determine .... ſo in that momentous particular we muſt remain unſatisfied.

He look'd obliquely upon the uſeful part of the creation, and treated mechanics in general as a ſpecies of wretches, who were thrown into the world by Providence, to be labourers to thoſe whom ſhe had ſignalized with her favour.

A timidity of diſpoſition inclined him to be religious, but his ideas of moral diſpenſations were ſo ſuperficial and ſelf-intereſted, that he explained the bleſſings of providence to the advantage of his own importance; for, as he would not venture to arraign the partiality of ſuperior wiſdom, he concluded, that the difference of fortune was a recompence given by Providence to the different degrees of merit; without allowing himſelf time to think, that Alderman B..... is very rich, and the author of theſe memoirs in very limitted circumſtances,

which muſt have furniſhed him with a proof to the contrary.

This impotence of thought filled him with baſe, ungenerous conceptions, and often interrupted his felicity. . . . . Happineſs is a mental enjoyment, and he that wilfully thinks ill, or indifferently of his neighbour, is a diſturber of his own tranquility . . . . domeſtic inquietude is the perquiſite of arrogance . . . . ſuch (I am too much afraid) was the unhappy diſpoſition of my grandfather.

It was with great reluctance he was brought ſometimes to confeſs, the court of aldermen, and the ſupreme magiſtrate of the city, bore an aukward, unkind reſemblance to the family . . . . but even then he would reconcile this temporary uneaſineſs, by diſowning the legitimacy,

and would obſerve, that the Sapſkulls were originally an incontinent looſe people, and theſe rough, uncouth citizens, were certainly the produce of ſome baſe, indelicate conjunction.

The baronet, with this penumbra of dignity, eaſily prevail'd over the addreſſes of Wealth, in the reſpectable character of a merchant; and after a very ſhort, ungentle courtſhip, was preferred to the partiality of being married to the favourite child of Nehemiah Natural, Eſq; a juſtice of the peace for the city of Gotham.

A gentleman, who by indefatigable induſtry, and great .... that is, true knowledge in the trading part of that profeſſion, had accumulated a vaſt fortune.

This circumſtance can be no way aſtoniſhing, for every reader muſt know, if he knows any thing, that Juſtice is the moſt beneficial trade now followed, as well from the different articles a magiſtrate deals in, as for the advantage of prompt payment . . . . and a man practiſed in the *jeu de ballance*, will give more good-will for the ſhop in Bow-ſtreet, than for the beſt accuſtom'd mercer's ſhop upon Ludgate-hill. . . . Sir John, though muffled, could ſee into that.

It was upon the conſideration of private emolument, my grandfather condeſcended to mingle his blood (viz.) the Sapſkulls with the Naturals, whom, he ſaid, were a low, groveling race of people; that his worſhipful father-in-law had rais'd himſelf and his family from the loweſt ebb of diſtreſs, and kept them

them floating upon the ſtream of proſperity, by the great growth of diſhoneſty, the profits of his equitable vocation ariſing from the ingenuity of detecting villanies . . . committing poor rogues and diſcharging rich ones . . . . participating the ſpoils of thief-takers . . . . ſearch warrants for poor itinerant proſtitutes . . . . fees for licenſing brothels and gaming houſes, with many other illegal exorbitancies prudently reſerv'd to themſelves . . . . This is the infamous trade notoriouſly practiſed in the city before-mentioned ! . . . . Heaven forbid the juſtices of London and Weſtminſter ſhould be guilty of ſuch iniquities, or even give the leaſt reaſon for ſuſpicion, I have too good an opinion of their morals and generoſity.

Thrice

Thrice happy England! where the magiſtrates act upon the glorious principle of independence .... who have pride and honeſty enough to ſupport the ſpirit and dignity of the penal laws, uninfluenced by prerogative; and who aſſiduouſly apply their talents to the public good, unbiaſſed by penſionary perquiſites, or any other lucrative or venal conſideration .... Who have ....

God I hope takes proper notice of what they have ... but ſhould I enumerate all their virtues, they would want impudence to keep their modeſty in countenance, when they heard them; and you, my patient reader, much leiſure to put your temper to the trial in reading them.

So here ends this chapter, and by cloſing it with a compliment, I ſhall cloſe

close in with the worthy magistrates, who cannot help discharging the debt of civility, by saying as many pretty things in commendation of my works, as I have thrust upon the public in praise of theirs. I am only afraid, that what I have already said may flatter them into an opinion of my zeal for the public good, and hurry them into the expence of having my bust to ornament the Rotation-office in King-street, Westminster; for it is no unusual thing for bodies of men, in the first agitation of patriotic affection, to erect statues for one chapter of a man's life, and pull them down in the next.

CHAP.

CHAP. II.

The influence of vanity upon weak minds exemplified.

THE inquiſitive reader will be impatient to know what particular paſſion could operate ſo ſtrong, upon the mind of the Juſtice, as to influence his worſhip to be ſo haſty in beſtowing his daughter upon my grandfather, in preference to riches nobly earned.

I will attempt to ſatisfy their curioſity, and hope I ſhall not be thought too ſevere, when I declare he had a pityful ambition of being looked upon as the object of fear and admiration, and at all times put on the air of authority, and aukwardly affected the ſtrut of conſe-

quence

quence .... As his ſoul ſneak'd after titled-greatneſs, it is no wonder he ſnatch'd the earlieſt opportunity, even at the expence of trifling away his darling child, to gratify his vanity, by flattering his expectations, in the hopes of ſome future honour to himſelf by the intereſt of ſo powerful a connexion.

Knighthood was a thing he had long wiſhed for, and as it was the loweſt ſtep, he thought he might reach it without overſtraining the ſinews of power to aſſiſt him in the attempt; and to prepare himſelf for the change, he had rehears'd his ſervants in the alteration of Sir Nehemiah, and ſeemed much to approve the ſound: the *Knt.* at the end of his name he thought a great improvement, and both together would make a conſiderable addition to the ſuperſcription of his

his letters .... He employed much of his time in writing cards to himſelf, and ſticking them in the frame of his looking glaſs, to anticipate and admire their appearance; and no ſooner did he obtain the dignity, but (as I was informed by the family) he augmented the revenue of the poſt-office, by becoming his own correſpondent.

Although knighthood in our days is a bauble, like the gold chain, calculated for the amuſement of the court of aldermen, ſtill the Eques Auratus in former times, was the moſt reſpectable dignity a prince could confer upon a ſubject; they had an excluſive privilege of enriching their armour with gold .... but then princes were more at eaſe with themſelves, and leſs in the power of nobles .... they were ſtrangers to that political

reſtraint

reſtraint which wreſts every appointment of honour and profit from the ſovereign, to be ſquandered away upon the minions of ſome unworthy Right Honourable ſubject .... It was then princes were as chaſte in diſtributing their honours, as the ladies were in thoſe days of beſtowing their favours .... Real merit had the only chance to enjoy either of them: and the honour of a * box on the ear from the ſovereign was reſerved for thoſe only who would not take a box from any other perſon whatever .... But now the ſword of majeſty is proſtituted to the vileſt purpoſe, of tapping the ſhoulders of men, who would ſubmit to be kick'd by every fellow who frequents their ſhop.

Beſides

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* A box on the ear was part of the ceremony anciently uſed at their creation.

Beſides this alliance with my grandfather was (as 'ſquire Natural ſaid) reſcuing his family from diſgrace .... for if I may venture to reveal a piece of ſecret hiſtory, the Juſtice's own mother was diſtinguiſhed from the reſt of her bawling aſſociates, by her ſweet ton'd voice, and melodious manner of ſcreaming out, "Old cloaths to ſell or "change for earthen ware;" and his father, in the infirmities of life, let lodgings for travellers, and ſold good ſmall beer.

But what ſeemed to embarraſs and diſturb him moſt, his eldeſt daughter had undutifully thrown herſelf away upon a ſaleſman in Monmouth-ſtreet.

This laſt ſtroke hurt him more, as it kept his remembrance alive .... it was

an

an attentive prompter never abſent from his charge, to give him the cue to the ſtory of his original nothingneſs.

In this act Miſs Natural had ſo diſobliged her papa, that in the vehemence of his pride, he ordered the doors to be cloſed againſt her, vowing never to ſee her again. . . . . And I am informed he very religiouſly kept his word.

I revive not theſe things in anger, neither do I repeat them to gratify any lurking reſentment; but, on the contrary, to mark the temper of his worſhip, and to demonſtrate to the world (which muſt otherwiſe remain ignorant of this important fact) that he ſtruck the fire out of himſelf, and kindled the blaze of his own reputation . . . . but in this 'ſquire Natural is neither particular nor alone,

for many of our moſt glaring characters in life owe their exiſtence to the demineſt extraction . . . . and why not?

The arcanum of nature furniſhes various inſtances to vindicate ſuch whiſpy generations . . . . The dazling meteor is exhaled from the dreary lake, or miry bog! . . . . The duſky flint emits the glittering ſpark! . . . In vegetation too the humble crab forgets the foſtering ditch, when in the garden ſhe blooms the parent of the golden pippin or the nonpareil!

From a proper attention to the ſtated characters of Sir Bartholomew and Juſtice Natural, this inference muſt naturally be drawn, that the only point the 'ſquire had in view, was to obtain dignity by the argument of fortune; and

on the other ſide, the baronet aimed at fortune by the perſuaſion of dignity; theſe were the only motives that could poſſibly induce either of them to ſuch a raſh, unjuſtifiable engagement on the part of the young lady .... a ſacrifice too often and too fatally made at the ſhrines of Avarice and Vanity! ... ſo in that particular, viz. the mode of reconciling it to themſelves, we may ſuppoſe them both ſatisfied.

But my grandfather's pride was ſo inſuperable, that notwithſtanding Miſs Natural had forty thouſand pounds to her fortune, he could never be brought to acknowledge her publicly his wife! .... turn'd off his coach-maker for incorporating her arms with his, and commanded it immediately to be blotted from the eſcutcheon! .... never permitted her to

dine at the ſame table with him! .... were never ſeen abroad together .... Indeed this laſt circumſtance is not ſo very extraordinary, for whilſt Faſhion conſiders Matrimony only a form in law to poſſeſs themſelves of another perſon's fortune, the wife, like an executed deed, is thrown careleſly aſide as a waſte piece of parchment; ſo my grandfather, in every reſpect, treated her no otherwiſe, than as a neglected piece of houſhold furniture.

Two beds ſeparated this whimſical couple, and ſuch was the oddity of his diſpoſition, he ſet apart a certain day in every month, for his Thaleſtris to approach his tent to receive the embraces of her Alexander! .... And the lady was ſo nice an obſerver of decency, that, like Zenobia the Aſiatic queen, ſhe ſuſ-

pended

pended her monthly viſitation immediately after nature had given her certain negative proofs of her being pregnant! . . . Or, as the ſcripture has it, "When "it ceas'd to be with Sarah after the "manner of women."

My lady grandmother was one of thoſe pacific ladies, who think it a particular duty to yield a perfect obedience to the will of their huſbands, ſo ſhe at all times virtuouſly ſubmitted to the commands of her capricious lord . . . . An excellent example, but not much imitated.

As we are now entering upon a new ſcene, and as my father is the firſt who appears in it, I cannot do leſs than make him the compliment of taking the lead of a new chapter.

CHAP. III.

Pride and Meanneſs . . . . accompliſhments in the Sapſkull family.

MY father, Simon Sapſkull, was the hopeful offspring of one of thoſe monthly aſſociations (and, if I was rightly informed) the eldeſt of ſixteen.

He was early tranſplanted into a village in Yorkſhire, and his education entruſted to the care of a certain divine in that country.

It may appear ſomewhat improbable, that a perſon ſo proudly accompliſh'd as my grandfather, ſhould venture his ſon and heir in a country not remarkably diſtinguiſhed for their politeneſs, but,

on

on the contrary, talked of for their booriſh incivility; for it ſeems to be the received opinion, that brutality is their characteriſtic .... artifice and cunning their natural inheritance .... and people of poor capacities are apt to be deluded by vulgar prejudices.

Pride and Meanneſs, like man and wife, are always coupled together ... the attributes of the one is the dowry of the other .... and no ſooner does the paſſion of one begin to exert itſelf, but it rouzes the jealouſy of the other .... ſo that whenever Pride makes any advances, you will always ſee Meanneſs lurking behind.

You will find ſimilar ingredients in the compoſition of a ſoldier .... Pride and Cowardice are concomitants in his character, and you may be ever certain

when Pride appears in the front of a general, Cowardice ſkulks in the rear . . . . A man, under the influence of Pride, eſtimates his value by the idea he forms of himſelf, and by this partial way of reckoning, he appears ſo diſtinguiſh'd from the reſt of mankind, that he dares not venture an object of his importance to the dangers of an engagement . . . . . To illuſtrate this obſervation, I ſhall only quote one inſtance, and that (I am ſorry to ſay ſo much againſt my countryman) a very true one . . . . The young lord who refuſed to advance with his horſe, when commanded by Prince Ferdinand of Brunſwick, was the proudeſt man upon the plains of Minden.

But to return with our accuſtomed humility to the place from whence we were elbowed out by the intruſion of Pride,

and

and give the reaſon I was there about to offer, for the ſon and heir of Sir Bartholomew Sapſkull, his being ſent into Yorkſhire for the aſſiſtance of education.

The reaſon, I imagine (at leaſt I hope ſo) was in conſideration of his numerous and increaſing family; ſo by ſaving expences abroad, he was the better enabled to make a figure at home . . . . . beſides, it fully anſwered his purpoſe, as he paid very little regard to the real and extenſive accompliſhments neceſſary to the finiſhing a fine gentleman . . . . . To ſay truth, he was as ignorant as many other dupes of quality, and did not know what thoſe accompliſhments meant.

Pardon me, courteous reader, if at different periods of time, I may perchance introduce you to bad company,

as the moral rectitude of things, and not the too common practice of impoſing fallacies, to ſerve the penurious publiſher, muſt neceſſarily prompt me, for as the records of virtue are the nobleſt precepts to inſtruct and improve the mind, lifting our thoughts above the vulgar race of beings . . . . ſo examples of vice and folly, ingenuouſly related, have likewiſe their particular advantage, as they ſerve for buoys to ſecure us thro' the voyage of life, by pointing out the perils and dangers in it.

As there is ſomething conſpicuouſly wrong in the diſpoſition of Sir Bartholomew, I ſhall expoſe him to the world, that in the end the world may be benefitted by it.

And

And I do not in the leaſt doubt, but there are many who are numbered among the meaner claſs of actors in this great theatre, whoſe contracted and confined notion of things will call me ungenerous, baſe, and unnatural, for expoſing the foibles of thoſe to whom, by conſanguinity, I am ſo nearly allied . . . . . I ſcorn the imputation . . . . . as I ſhall always think it my particular duty to ſacrifice private intereſt for public utility.

I ſhall now once more lead you into the company of Sir Bartholomew, that you may be the better acquainted with his character . . . . You are now going to ſee him at a very critical juncture, in that which ought to be the moſt important buſineſs of a father . . . . the education of his ſon, with a very extraordinary dialogue in conſequence of it.

The

The north-country tutor is introduced to my grandfather, who receives him with all the tortur'd ſolemnity of uneaſy greatneſs, and in an inſtant, without any previous, circumlocutary compliments, burſts out upon this material buſineſs.

Firſt, he ſtrongly enjoins him not to forget inſpiring his boy with nobility of thought (as he term'd it) putting him conſtantly in mind of the great and ancient family from whence he deriv'd, that his actions might never leſſen the dignity of his name .... that moral and religious precepts he would willingly diſpenſe with .... for the doctrines of religion (he ſaid) were ſo various .... ſo abſtruſe, and ſo contrived to humble the thoughts of mankind, by reducing them to the ſame level, that they only ſerv'd to puzzle and perplex the mind, and

encourag'd

encourag'd ſentiments too low and too unbecoming a man of diſtinction . . . . . therefore he repeated his diſpenſation from all moral and religious incumbrances, provided he ſtrictly adhered to his former injunction.

What the low mechanical world call a thorough knowledge of his own language, and claſſical learning, were mere negative qualifications totally unneedful in the education of a polite gentleman, very unprofitable purſuits, and only of uſe to thoſe needy hirelings who ſcribble nonſenſical lives and adventures . . . . the holiday of literature . . . . for a wretched ſubſiſtence.

That at a proper time of life, he would remove him to France, and fix him there for a few months, to finiſh his

ſtudies,

ſtudies, for it was a maxim with him . . . and indeed moſt people of rank, who conſider things in a refined ſenſe, followed invariably his opinion, that no one could be compleatly accompliſhed that had not been upon the continent.

His reverence, who knew very little, and had but a confuſed notion of . . . . . I mean the world, interrupted the baronet . . . . . .

I will take the hint, and from this interruption will finiſh this chapter, that the reader may have time to prepare himſelf for a more important one.

CHAP.

CHAP. IV.

A caricatura, or rough draught of Holland.

HIS reverence interrupted the baronet, by unluckily mentioning Holland; or rather lucky for us, for if he had not, we perhaps might ſtill have remained ignorant about it, and my grandfather miſſed the opportunity of ſporting his hiſtorical abilities; and was proceeding to the queſtion, whether he meant that part of the continent .... when my grandfather, ſwelling with indignation, exclaimed,

O the diſproportioned, uncouth cormorants .... greedy and avaricious to a proverb ..... It was my misfortune, once

once in my life, to be forced upon their filthy, uncivilized coaſt, and having, at that time, more reſolution than diſcretion, ventured among them .... but I was ſeverely puniſhed for my curioſity ... I hurry'd from that ſcene of abſurdity and naſtineſs, and returned thanks to my better fortune which had relieved me from ſuffocation.

They are ſo ſtrange a people, and live in ſuch contradiction with themſelves, that they ſcower the inſide of their flower-pots, at the ſame time they make a ſtoke-hole of their throats!

Believe me you will ever ſee upon theſe fumigating parties, a number of Scheepens and ſchouts ....

With ſubmiſſion good ſir, (interrupted the doctor) I ſuppoſe theſe Shippens and

ſhouts

ſhouts are a noiſy, wild ſort of people, the ſame now as the Goths and Vandals were formerly.

Spha, ſpha, ſputter'd my grandfather .... you are extremely ignorant, Sir ... what a lamentable thing it is to be ignorant .... to miſtake the ſcheepens and ſchouts for the Goats and Sandals .... Where were you born, for God's ſake? .... In Yorkſhire, anſwered the pedagogue, with affected ſimplicity .... In Yorkkire! .... poor man, I pity you heartily .... However, as you were never upon the continent, your deficiency in point of knowledge is not ſo much to be wondered at .... Your friends, Sir, were much to blame not to ſend you upon the continent .... No, Sir, none of your Goats and Sandals.

The ſcheepens are a kind of common-council . . . and the ſchouts a ſort of prætors * or ſupervifors, to inſpect and ſee that the intention of the laws are properly obſerv'd . . . . men of ſome rank in their own country . . . . . You know what beaſtly wretches they are in England . . . . men very high and rich in their feeding, but very poor, very low in their manners . . . . They ſtuff out their naſty carcaſſes, that by a vaſt protuberance of paunch, their pleaſures may not be confined within too narrow a compaſs.

This ſort of œconomy puts me in mind of . . . . . a damn'd good ſtory . : . but I have forgot it . . . . . I remember the

---

* Prætors . . . . the curate hereafter mentioned, I ſuppoſe, borrowed that name for the old gentleman.

curate

curate of my pariſh, who is much better acquainted with thoſe ancient people than I am, mentioned the affair . . . it has ſtray'd from me . . . . Pox on't . . . . ha, how ſtrange ſome things are recovered and brought about . . . . that naſty word I juſt made uſe of in my impatience, has brought the wanderer home to my memory, ... it was one Polixenus who lamented the gods had not formed his neck like a crane, that he might receive the greater pleaſure in eating, by the longer ſtay of the food in his throat; . . . . ay, that's the ſtory. . . . . I am glad I remember'd it, for it is a damn'd good one, and very judiciouſly apply'd.

I think you are acquainted with the round faced attorney . . . . . the c———n c——l-man of London, ... the magna-charta fellow, ... he is juſt the fi-

gure of a ſcheepen, ... men who have more guts than brains, ... and more impudence than underſtanding. . . . . but

As I was ſaying before, you will ſee a number of thoſe ſcheepens and ſchouts, in theſe their clowniſh ſolacements, emitting as frightful a quantity of ſmoke from their mouths, as ever you ſaw exhaled from the forges of the cyclops at Birmingham.

And then the Dutch ſcoundrels are ſo extravagantly wanton in their tavern reckonings, ... would you believe it, they put down in their bills a ſchelling for kiſſing the maid . . . . a naſty pot-bel-ly'd trollop . . . . and when I proteſted againſt the charge, as I had not really taken the advantage of that indecent privilege, they told me very frankly it was

no

no neglect of theirs, ... for I might if I would!

And ſo curſedly quick in every other tranſaction of life, ... there is no guarding againſt their impoſitions, ... they are too much for the phlegmatic genius of an Engliſhman! .... after I had agreed for lodging at three ſhillings ſterling a day, the dogs brought me a further charge of five ſhillings a night.

How ſir, (haſtily interrupted the doctor, quickened by reſentment) and could you have no redreſs? ... redreſs, ſay you, why I went before a fat-arſed (how uncouth ſome people are in their ſimiles ... but the character's finely marked by it .... Groſs ideas characterize high life... for it is too common a practice with people of faſhion to ornament their bodies

with ſilk, and cloath their language in linſey-wolſey) burgo-maſter to prefer my complaints, and after the filthy cur had puffed his ſmoke into my eyes, and ſpit in my face, he told me he was buſy and would not be diſturbed.

You will find me rather prolix in my narrative of theſe Hollanders, as you ſeem not to have the leaſt conception of them.

You muſt know, Sir, and it is very neceſſary you ſhould know, firſt, that I relate theſe facts with hiſtorical integrity, from which, in my opinion, you will find them not only entertaining, but edifying: therefore I repeat it again, it is abſolutely neceſſary you ſhould be informed, that theſe people are, in politics as in every thing elſe, contracted and narrow

narrow .... They will not permit the deſcendants of naturalized ſubjects to enjoy any authority in the ſtate, that the government of their republic may be continued in themſelves .... from knowing this I think you would not recommend your people to live amongſt them.

And the burgo-maſters (or burgoo-maſters as my brother the admiral will have it .... a compound word, as he explains it, of burgoo and maſter; the firſt alluding to ſome indelicate propenſities in their feeding, and the latter to their ſuperiority in taking the lead at all gormandizing aſſemblies, not unlike the chairman, with the brazen bauble, at Stocks market) are ſo tenacious of the dignity of their office, and ſo arbitrary in maintaining it, that in the year 1722 they committed an advocate to perpetual

impriſonment, for defending his client againſt the incroachments of miniſterial authority !

By the bye, I would not have you aſſociate the idea of their miniſters with the idea of ours .... there is no compariſon .... Our miniſters are great, very great, and very powerful men .... though not ſo great as they have been.... Strabus, the bleer-ey'd ſenator, did for them .... he abridg'd their high mightineſſes .... a damn'd impudent fellow for his pains .... was angry truly becauſe lord Dupe, the ſadler, from a virtuous principle, wanted to look into his private correſpondence, to detect him (as I am told) in ſome adulterous purſuit, which his lordſhip was appriz'd of, and endeavoured to prevent, only as it interfered with his own !

But

But no more General Warrants . . . . the Lieutenant of the Tower muſt be damnably abridg'd in the perquiſites of his office, from ſuch an abatement of power in the ſecretaries of ſtate . . . . . Mr. Carrington, one of the meſſengers, as I am inform'd, intends to reſign upon it! . . . . Mr. Akerman, the keeper of Newgate, threatens to lay down! . . . . and moſt of the people in the lock-up way talk of retiring! . . . . a total change is expected! . . . . there muſt be ſome latent meaning in all this! . . . . ſome concatenated plan of operations between them! . . . . I know thus much, that if our miniſters were as poor and beggarly as the Dutch, they might have ſnack'd with theſe illegal executors of an uſurp'd power, and thereby have made a general warrant as profitable to a ſecretary of ſtate, as a ſearch warrant is to a trading juſtice.

Men

Men in power proportion their aſſiduity to their fees of office . . . . it is the main ſpring of action . . . . . the motive to, and condition of their accepting thoſe lucrative appointments . . . . . therefore without a valuable conſideration, and a very valuable one to, they will not act . . . . The love of our country is an antiquated affection, and betrays an hardneſs of heart inſuſceptible of thoſe tender feelings, which, upon the principle of modern œconomy, animate ſelf-love.

Strabus is divorc'd from his country from being too fond of it . . . . A man, if he is wiſe, ſhould meaſure his patriotiſm by the miniſterial ſcale . . . . we are apt to ſtretch too far without it . . . Strabus over-run the mark . . . . The field of Intereſt, like a bowling green, has a ſuper-

a ſuperficial ſmoothneſs, but there are many riſings before you can come at the jack, which require a miniſterial bias to ſurmount.

Strabus cannot ſee clear .... I can never forgive ſuch palpable blindneſs .... To ſee ſome things, and ſquint at others, is political philoſophy .... but damn it .... God forgive me for ſwearing, he has been ſquinting all his life-time .... I can never forgive him .... but I will forget him, and return to ....

What was I talking about? the Dutch I think, Sir, but I am not certain .... This uncertainty is no great compliment to my grandfather's method of telling a ſtory, as it proves the doctor was not very attentive to it .... thank ſome power

or

or other my readers are not ſuch ſtupid people.

True, the barbarous ſcoundrels .... their laws are obliged to be lenient, in order to correct that ſavage diſpoſition, natural to thoſe wretches .... it is for this that raſcals are allow'd to cheat their creditors with impunity, to avoid the other extreme of being puniſhed with too much ſeverity.

But I have little occaſion to pourtray that part of their character, as they ſit for their picture at Amboyna, and the Portugueſe have drawn it to the life.

The want of a proper education has narrow'd the minds of thoſe people to that ſingle article, trade .... and it was upon the principle of commerce they made

made a ſale of their liberties to the prince of Orange, for no other conſideration but to preſerve the courſe of exchange, in order to continue their credit till their foreign bills were paid, which plainly demonſtrates, they are a people loſt to every other principle whatever.

I will give you a further proof of it .... In the ſpirit of forcing a trade, they took the opportunity of a civil war in the kingdom of Bantam, the moſt conſiderable ſovereignty in the iſle of Java, and by treacherouſly ſupporting the ſon in a revolt againſt the father, weaken'd both parties, ſo that they ſtept in, and with very little difficulty, ſeiz'd upon the city and its commerce, and made the inhabitants ſlaves; and they have been continued in the ſame ſtate of

dage to the Dutch Eaſt-India company ever ſince.

What think you of theſe honeſt men now, doctor? .... Why, I think, Sir, if a man wiſhes to be well with the infernal inhabitants below, he ſhould perfect himſelf in the Dutch language while he is permitted to remain above; for the devil's territories muſt certainly be peopled with Batavians, there can be no correſpondence, no ſociety without it; for their helliſh language will be as faſhionable at the court of Proſerpine, as the French is at the top of St. James's park .... Nay, an Italian gentleman, deep in the ſcience of theology, aſſured me, that when the Almighty thruſt Adam out of Paradiſe, he ſpake Dutch .... But it's very ſtrange, theſe fellows ſhould be

be ſo bound up in the wrapper of trade, they will go to the devil to improve it.

From this attention to commerce, they are ſtrangers to good manners . . . . You muſt know, they were ſo monſtrouſly rude they would not lower their colours when an Engliſh ſhip of war paſs'd by them . . . . but commodore Young, who knew good breeding as well as moſt naval commanders, for he ſtudy'd under one Oliver Cromwell, met a Dutch fleet, and notwithſtanding it was commanded by a vice-admiral, he inſiſted upon the compliment, and upon the ſchippers refuſing it, he called to him from the mouth of his great guns ſo loud and ſo often, that although mynheer attempted to anſwer him in the ſame language, Young was too old and too eloquent for the Dutchman, for in a little time he con-

convinced him he was wrong, and compelled him to a proof of his obedience, by ſtriking his colours .... and they have taken the hint ever ſince.

But there remains one thing, more damnable than all the reſt .... With this abominable circumſtance I ſhall finiſh their character .... my ſoul is hurt at the remembrance of it! .... The dogs have dared to reflect upon the leading men of my family! .... gentlemen who ſtand foremoſt in the liſt of the Sapſkulls! .... You muſt know, doctor, theſe anti-epiſcopal ſcoundrels, have dared to exerciſe their raillery upon our right reverend fathers in God! ... men you know, as remarkable for their humility as they are exemplary in their munificence! .... Not ſatisfy'd with refuſing to receive theſe pious men into their church ... but ...

what

what do you think? . . . . they make weather-cocks of them! . . . Would you believe it, I ſaw in a ſhop-window at Helveot-Sluys a weather-houſe, and inſtead of that decent propriety I have ever obſerved in moſt of thoſe toys in England, where a man and woman are the expreſſive types of the ſeaſon, in this there was a ſwoln figure with a mitre upon his head, ſtrutting and panting in the ſun-ſhine, to ſignify fair weather! and an half-ſtarv'd curate, trembling and ſhaking with cold, to forewarn you of foul weather!

Can you form to yourſelf any thing ſo infamous? . . . . which is as much as to ſay, the dignitaries of our church wallow in wealth and indolence, and ſtrut in corporal preſervation, whilſt they throw the wear and tear upon the infe-

rior clergy, who are not ſo well able to maintain the expence, and ſupport the fatigue of ſuch hard duty .... a damnable inſinuation! .... to make a weather-cock of a biſhop! .... every prime miniſter knows to the contrary .... a magnet is not more conſtant to the north, than theſe ſteady divines are to the miniſter.

Suppoſe they have fair-weather'd countenances, does not that prove the blaſt of intemperance never impaired them ... and if they do ſometimes neglect their flock, it muſt be imputed to their infirmities; for it too frequently happens, they are appointed to the care of a flock when they are hardly able to take care of themſelves .... Poor gentlemen, they are cruelly uſed to be over-charged with the cure of other people's ſouls, at a

time when they ought to be labouring a cure for their own.

I am convinced, doctor, from this finifhing ftroke in the figuration of a Dutchman, you will not recommend his country as a proper feminary for the education of thofe youth committed to your care and management .... How the devil came you to mention it at firft.

Nothing but the devil, good Sir, could have put it into my head .... I afk your honour's pardon, it was what we grammarians call a *lapfus* .... but I fhall take care for the future only to mention it, that it may be avoided: for on the credit of your report, I fhall hold it in fuch horrid contempt, that I will fcreen it in the map of the world, and in my geographical lectures be particularly cautious

never to give the leaſt hint that ſuch a country is permitted to exiſt, leſt wilful curioſity (which was partly your honour's caſe) ſhould lead many of the youth of quality to the ſociety of ſuch barbarous people.

God help me, I was deluded into an opinion of thoſe wretches (as your honour very juſtly terms them) by their hiſtorical genius, for indiſputably (under favour of your honour) they have given ſufficient proofs of their great knowledge of the divine hiſtory in particular, as thoſe little four-corner'd abſtracts, which decorate the chimney ſides in the curious ſtudies of the learned, can evidence; and for my own part muſt confeſs, it is an eaſy and pleaſing acquiſition to perfect myſelf in the ſacred memoirs of Moſes and Aaron, and furniſh my memory

memory with the wonderful eſcapes of Jonas and the three Children of Iſrael, with many other divine miracles, beautifully and ingeniouſly delineated in thoſe * glazy ornaments .... Beſides, an author of great taſte and judgment, ſays, that ſomebody or other went to ſtudy poetry in Holland!

His reverence then ey'd my grandfather with a jeſuitical leer, and as the old gentleman varied his countenance, he altered his diſcourſe .... like St. Ignatius with his diſciples †, he play'd the old ſoldier upon him, and wheeled about

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* Dutch tiles.

† St. Ignatius, the founder of the Jeſuits, was a ſoldier, and from their excellent and peculiar talent of impoſing upon mankind, the ſaying of Playing the old ſoldier, is derived.

upon the approaches of diſapprobation, in order to get the old gentleman between two irreſiſtable fires .... Flattery and Inſinuation .... the ſtrongeſt and moſt powerful attack upon the weakeſt part of a proud man ... Vanity cannot reſiſt the force of ſuch artillery .... ſo like an experienced engineer he opened his maſked battery, with gravely telling him, that he plainly perceived his worſhip (I believe I omitted telling you before he was of the quorum) had a true notion of polite erudition.

Aye, aye, reply'd the baronet, I have not ſpent my time within the circle of the great unprofitably .... I could preſcribe maxims for the conduct of princes ... nay, tradition tells us, that Sapſkulls have governed many principalities ....

emperors

emperors and ſultans have been known lineally to deſcend from us.

Sir (interrupted the divine) the antiquity of your name is known but to very few.

You are miſtaken, pedant (anſwered the baronet with precipitation) my name is known and revered by every body of the leaſt degree of faſhion . . . . . The prettieſt and beſt dreſs'd men in the army are Sapſkulls . . . . the braveſt and moſt deſperate men at Arthur's are all Sapſkulls . . . . and Bath, which for ages went upon crutches, and wept at every pore for the afflictions of mankind, is now ſupported in dancing and uproar by an aſſociation of Sapſkulls, who pay more attention to the impertinencies of Bath, than to the ſalutary tears of old

Trinovantum * . . . and, indeed, in every other faſhionable aſſembly the family of the Sapſkulls are always very numerous, and generally very conſpicuous.

I crave your worſhip's pardon.

Talking of Bath, Sir, would you believe it .... Mr. Leake the ſtationer proteſted to me, no longer ago than laſt week, that the waters of Bath are ſo little uſed, that is, ſo much out of faſhion in theſe our days of wantonneſs and frolick, that he loſes one hundred pounds every ſeaſon in the ſingle article of ſoft paper .... but the genius of pleaſure is a diametral contradiction to the ſpirit of trade and commerce.

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* Trinovantum, the ancient name of Bath.

Pray,

Pray, Sir (interrupted the doctor) permit me to ask .... Did the ladies filter the water through the paper then, to occaſion that vaſt conſumption?

No .... you blockhead .... they wiped their .... Zounds, Sir, if I had not been upon my guard, your ignorance would have hurry'd me into ſuch an indecency .... I bluſh in confuſion at the narrowneſs of the eſcape .... One word more .... one little monoſyllable, would have ſtained my reputation infinitely worſe than the ſhock of it diſcolours my face .... Thoſe purpoſes for which ſoft paper is uſed, are to be conceived, not explained .... See, Sir, how immoderately I bluſh.

What affectation! .... when but a few pages before, all the world, if they have

have an inclination, may bear witneſs, that this ſame baronet deſcribed the fleſhy part of the luſty burgo-maſter by its vulgareſt name, without the leaſt ſcruple of delicacy .... and now ſee how immoderately he bluſhes.

Men of faſhion are ſtrange heterogeneous monſters .... it requires a particular mode of ſtudy, and a certain degree of attention, to keep upon terms with them .... inſtead of leading their tempers you muſt follow them ... for what will pleaſe to-day may offend to-morrow .... and the impudent ſcoundrel at one time, will be the approv'd, jolly, ſpirited fellow at another, ... ſo a ſenſible diffidence one hour, will be laughed at for a contemptible ſheepiſhneſs the next.

But to palliate this ſudden change in my grandfather's diſpoſition, there muſt be allowed a wide difference between the a— of a burgomaſter and the —— ſide of a lady .... And to be ſure, to uſe the baronet's words upon part of the ſame occaſion .... one may be deſcribed, the other ought only to be conceived.

And further Mr. ——— a very eminent apothecary in the city, aſſured me, that many of the infallible parts which formerly crowded the Materia Medica, being ſhoved out of the ſyſtem by the judgment and honeſty of ſome experienced phyſicians in London, medicine had now loſt its credit with practice ... The only drug in requeſt with us, ſigh'd he, is oil of cinnamon, much uſed by ſuch young ladies who are under the government

vernment of an aunt or mother, grown old and peeviſh in the ſervice of pleaſure, and who has forgot every thing about Bath, but the ſalutary effects of the waters, from the ſuperannuated ſtory of Bladud and his leprous pigs; and from ſuch Gothic notions as theſe compel their daughters or nieces to follow the faſhion which prevailed in their youth, and drink the waters to waſh from their blood the dregs of intemperance transferred to them by ſome voracious alderman, or debauched man of quality .... But as the head of a young lady is not ſtuffed with ſuch dry materials as an old one, they have neither the neceſſity or inclination for water to ſet their imagination a-float .... It is the Ocean of Pleaſure they deſire to bathe in, and to move by the undulating ſound of a violin, and not to have their motions directed by the

influence

influence of chalybeats and minerals . . . and ſo this aſtringent is to ſtop the impertinent ſolicitations of the aqueous preſcription, from interfering with the amuſements of the night.

I ſhould rather think (with ſubmiſſion) that oil being of a ſoft, lubricating quality, it would ſmooth the paſſage, and rather promote the operation than diſcourage it.

Wrong again . . . . You are curſedly out of luck, doctor . . . . you are as unlearn'd in the virtues of drugs as you are ignorant in the vices of mankind.

Why man, cinnamon has that peculiar binding quality, or, to introduce a favourite ſimile, that quality binding, which covers the ſeams of the *cæcum* . . .

ſtitches

ſtitches up the *colon* . . . . ſows up the *rectum* . . . . and whips up the *ſphincter* with ſuch peculiar dexterity and tightneſs that you might as well ſwallow a ſempſtreſs, as take half an ounce of oil of cinnamon.

You ſee, Mr. Sciolus, the advantage of a good education, how beautiful the figure is kept up, and the aſſimilation carried through, from the quality binding to ſwallowing the ſempſtreſs . . . . all the effects of a generous education . . . . the mind muſt be expanded to entertain ſuch ideas.

Thus complain the apothecaries and paper-ſellers, whilſt the vintner lives in hopes to ſee the day, when the uproar at Bath ſhall drive away every invalid from the pump, and the ſons and daughters,

nay,

nay, the wives and dowagers of riot and diſſipation forget there is a ſingle ſpring in the place .... This evidently demonſtrates the Sapſkulls are the promoters of Bath .... indeed the Sapſkulls are a very great and important people.

I crave your worſhip's pardon (repeated the cringing, fawning tutor) I mean to trace it even beyond the creation.

At theſe words the ſtorm immediately ſubſided, and my grandfather appeared again in ſmiles .... He reply'd very calmly; Aye, aye, to be ſure, you learned men make ſtrange diſcoveries .... but I believe you are perfectly right .... there appears ſome truth in what you advance; don't let me interrupt you .... pray proceed .... ſatisfy me inſtantly in this particular .... I find myſelf mightily

ly uneaſy till I am clear in this important matter.

The artful pedagogue, obedient to his impatient requeſt, continued; Why, Sir, our firſt parents were of your name .... Adam and Eve were only poetical appellations, given to them in order to harmonize the language of the ſacred hiſtory .... we have many teſtimonies to prove it beyond a doubt, that Adam and Eve were Sapskulls.

Now what rogues (anſwer'd my grandfather with great emotion) .... what villains are theſe poets .... liars from the beginning of the world .... but be ſure let my ſon know this.

Undoubtedly, Sir (reply'd the old preceptor) it ſhall be the firſt doctrine I ſhall with

with pains and aſſiduity inculcate in him .... Nay, Sir, many people, wiſer, aye, much wiſer than myſelf, are of opinion, the Sapſkulls were the progenitors of Adam and Eve; and that the land of Nod, which has ſo long been a theme for caviliſts, was peopled with Sapskulls .... This, worthy Sir, you may ſet down as matter of fact, though I never ſaid ſo much to any body before ..... We learned divines are rather ſparing in our diſcoveries.

Amazing (grumbled Sir Bartholomew) .... and yet upon conſideration it is not amazing at all .... human nature is immutable .... mankind were the ſame at their firſt inſtitution .... and ſo Abraham, Iſaac, and Jacob, came *ab origine* from us! .... all the world owe their exiſtence to the Sapskulls .... to be

ſure, envy, rank envy, kept it ſo long a ſecret from me .... Ungrateful wretches .... do not fail letting my boy know this.

I ſhall moſt punctually and religiouſly obſerve it, Sir, reply'd Mr. Sciolus (for that was the parſon's name) .... My grandfather, for the ſecond time (the firſt was in condeſcending to amuſe the doctor with the hiſtory of the Batavians and his inſtructions thereupon) betrayed ſymptoms of humility, by ſhaking his learned biographer by the hand, and aſſuring him, he was a leſſon for all parſons.

Then aſſuming his former arrogance, cry'd aloud, and ſo the Sapskulls were a family long before the creation, ha, prieſt? ... be ſure do not neglect letting my ſon be

be acquainted with the ſtory of his antiquity .... then with an haughty, impeperious air, he threw a ſmall purſe of money (I will not venture to ſay guineas) upon the floor, as a reward for the diſcovery, which was of far greater conſequence to his pride, than the longitude would be to the ſervice of the public.

He then pronounc'd his valediction, and parted from the doctor with the complicated look of ſatisfaction and contempt, repeating, with loud vociferation (by an uncommon exertion of his lungs) Do not fail letting my boy know, he is the ſon of the univerſal parent.

Such was the character of this vain, inconſiderate man! .... I am afraid there are too many who too much reſemble

him . . . Pride is an error of conſequence and ought to be avoided.

Halt, weary reader, ſuſpend your unprofitable ſearch, and breathe awhile, leſt you ſhould ſicken by fatigue, and be rendered incapable of purſuing this tedious journey.

CHAP. V.

Blockheads ſhould be reſtrained from travelling beyond the boundaries of their own country, for prudent and political reaſons.

O Idleneſs, daughter of Wealth . . . . prime promoter of laughing literature . . . . chief protectreſs of lives and adventures . . . . give me thy aid . . . . ſtill baniſh

baniſh from your mind that bold intruder Reaſon .... Fancy's rude preceptor .... the ſcourge of Enterprize and Frolick ... that infidel in Faſhions ... that atheiſt in Politeneſs .... that Judas in Mirth, the betrayer of every jolly deity and let Curioſity, the parent of amuſement, triumph in his ſtead .... She will divert you from a world of woe, and tune your mind with amorous conceits lead you through the flowery vale of life in gentle ſlumbers undiſturbed by care .... make ſtern Reflection fly the ſeat of thought, and gay Romance employ your waking hours, and lull your ſenſes with her pleaſing dreams, till Fiction makes you giddy with delight.

Frown not, my friends, nor curſe the tedious invocation .... Gratitude is my monitor, and who ſo baſe as to withſtand

her admonitions .... And farther (for I muſt ſpeak truth) I had a view of pleaſing my honeſt publiſher, whoſe generous temper can never ſuffer him to forget favours liberally beſtowed upon him .... Idleneſs and Curioſity are the palladium of his vocation, and he has Grace and Gratitude enough to own it.

But not to wander too much out of the road, and miſs our way in the purſuit of trifles, let us return to the place where we laſt parted from Sir Bartholomew; for if your memory proves unfaithful, by turning back you will find his ſon, maſter Simon, under the direction of the ſagacious Dr. Sciolus, who no doubt took particular care to educate my father agreeable to the wiſe inſtructions given him by the old gentleman; and I may venture to declare (without putting

putting my veracity to the hazard) he was the blockhead, conſequently the butt of the ſchool .... A ſtupefaction clouded his intellects .... his comprehenſive faculties were cloſed by the moſt conſummate ignorance, and inacceſſible to every thing but the legacy of Pride, bequeathed him by his ſire.

In this manner he blunder'd through eleven years, the moſt valuable part of his time, agreeable to no body but himſelf and his father, who (dotard like) ſeem'd fully ſatisfy'd that his ſon had acquir'd a competent ſhare of uſeful learning, from the letters (which every other perſon would have been puzzled to read, and when read to underſtand) he frequently received from him; and in order to proſecute his firſt plan of accompliſhment, removed him from his

Yorkſhire academy, to complete the fine gentleman, by tranſplanting him to the fertile ſoil of France, where he might thrive in folly, and bloom out in all the foppery of that paltry nation.

How many raſh, inconſiderate parents, fooliſhly follow the example of Sir Bartholomew, and hurry their boobies abroad, before they are properly furniſhed for ſuch an important expedition.

The Spartan government, under the inſtruction of Lycurgus (a man obſcure in family ... in abilities very conſpicuous ... the ſimplicity of his manners was owing to the firſt, and the integrity of his heart to the latter ... He was one of thoſe very few great men, whoſe actions and ſentiments did not quadrate with the actions and ſentiments of our family) was particularly

cularly circumſpect in the choice of thoſe they permitted to travel, leſt from ſome imbecility of mind, they ſhould be lured by the novelty and gaiety of foreign manners and foreign cuſtoms, to adopt them to the injury of their own .... ſhould imitate thoſe who had been ſpoiled by ill education .... or ſhould learn to prefer ſome different form of government: ſuch weakneſſes, he knew, would not only bring ſhame to themſelves, but contempt upon the country who could ſend ſuch worthleſs ſpecimens of it .... It is a venture of conſequence, and ought to be enſured.

No young man ſhould be truſted in a foreign country, till he is intimately acquainted with the conſtitution of his own .... till he has ſenſe to ſoar above vanities .... patience to make obſervations .... hu-

.... humility to enquire, and judgment to make thoſe enquiries profitable .... There can be no doubt but every youth who travels thus qualify'd, muſt return with real advantages, his politeneſs would be his own praiſe, and his knowledge of public utility.

On the contrary, the fond, impetuous youth, panting after variety, gallops through the face of a country, impatient to arrive at the gay metropolis, where he may emulate the gaudy inſect in his dreſs, and ſhine the butterfly at every court aſſembly, thus fluttering in the momentary ray .... he is ſeen, not regarded, and like the taudry reptile, his tinſell'd pride expires with the blaze .... He arrives in England, the diſgrace of it .... a ruffian of faſhion, without manners .... his converſation is a libel upon himſelf,

himſelf, and the whole tenor of his conduct a ſevere ſarcaſm upon his parents... I am very confident none of my readers are ſuch ſort of people.

I have once more taken you out of the common path, but believe me it is as much for your ſecurity as my own reputation; for I boldly affirm, there is more danger in travelling through an ordinary romance, than in exploring the North-weſt paſſage; for in the firſt the heart is often corrupted, and the head, obedient to its dictates, wanders after vanities .... In the journey now before you, I am your guide and anſwerable for your ſafety.

And ſo with the prudence and prerogative of a guide, I ſhall reſt as often as with decency I can, for the eaſe of myſelf,

ſelf, the refreſhment of my fellow-travellers, and the benefit of thoſe literary publicans who may accommodate us on our journey.

CHAP. VI.

A tutor to a man of faſhion, like my lord mayor's champion, ſerves to fill up the train.

WHEN we laſt left maſter Simon, my father, he was juſt entering into the twentieth year of his age .... an age, when youth of ſpirit and emulation are preparing themſelves for every extraordinary feat, which good ſenſe or folly may ſuggeſt to them, either to exalt their character by atttempts conſo-

nant

nant to a rational being, or to ſink into the loweſt contempt, by ſuch acts of extravagance and inconſiſtency, which can only be reconciled by the ideot who commits them .... Ambition is the ſpur to deeds of ſublime enterprize .... That harum-ſcarum youth, Phaeton, at this age *, undertook to guide the reins of his father's chariot, and a damn'd fall he got for his preſumption ..... At this age young Icarus melted his wings by ſoaring too high ... and was curſedly ſouc'd for his raſhneſs .... and at this age my father was .... very pert, vain, and talkative .... would blunder out a great deal of incoherent nonſenſe .... ſtun you with an imperfect ſtory of the uncreated world, of which they (meaning the Sapſkulls) were the original, and

* Twenty-four.

made

made not the leaſt doubt, but after he had finiſhed the tour of France, he ſhould make as conſiderable a figure in hiſtory as his great grandfather king Solomon, and be as much admir'd for his wiſdom.

This ſort of impertinence engaged the attention of the old gentleman, who heard him with admiration .... a glow of eſteem redden'd his cheeks .... he eagerly took him by the hand, and gave him the ſqueeze of affection .... commended the diſcretion of Mr. Sciolus, for inſtructing my father in ſentiments ſo compatible with his rank and quality.

The young ſpark was poſſeſs'd with that ſort of low cunning .... a ſpecies of political management particularly adapted to men of mean diſpoſitions ... which enabled him to play upon the weak-

minded

minded baronet, and was very ready in taking the advantage of his fond moments .... It had the desired effect as it soon gain'd him the love and esteem of his father, who tenderly caress'd him, and called him by the most endearing epithets his steril genius could suggest.

He now prepares to send this amazing youth! ... this prodigy of polite learning, on his favorite tour, impatient to compleat the man he had so successfully begun.

He accordingly provided a proper companion, one whose talents seemed in every respect well suited to the disposition of his patron, ... for he was one of those dealers in affirmatives, who either for want of judgment or integrity, pay an implicit obedience to the will of their

superiors

ſuperiors, and with the utmoſt flexibility of ſubmiſſion conſent to every propoſition, however baſe and deſtructive; thereby too often raiſing a miſerable competence upon the ruin of many a noble youth, unhappily committed to their charge.

And withal was of that pliant turn of mind, that he eaſily reconciled the modes of religion to his particular intereſt; for, at different periods of time, in different countries, he was by turns a Proteſtant, Papiſt and Mahometan; nay, a certain heaven-born general declared, he has known him to worſhip the round-belly'd deities at China.

Such was the man choſen from all men in the world, to inoculate the doctrine of greatneſs upon the ſtock of ſtupidity and dulineſs,

dullneſs, ſo to improve and bring forth the fruits of knowledge, from the underſtanding of my ingenious father.

But as I have ſome reaſon to ſuſpect the perſons were greatly prejudiced againſt the doctor who gave me this firſt information, therefore little credit ſhould be given to the teſtimony of ſuch evidence; . . . . but if the reader will attend, I will ſum up the whole like an upright judge, and deliver my charge with fidelity and tenderneſs, ... not in this, but in a new chapter.

CHAP. VII.

What a tutor ought to be .... Plurality of livings the cauſe of diſſenters .... The tutor engaged for 'ſquire Sapſkull's improvement .... his character.

HOWEVER it may be in a court of law, in a court of conſcience, erected upon the principles of equity, and maintained by the precepts of benevolence, the mind, which is the jury, conſiders the credit and reputation of the informer .... croſs-queſtions the witneſſes (not with ſupercilious authority) but with temper and civility .... then weighs in the ſcale of Reaſon and Humanity every circumſtance of their teſtimony.

It is upon the practice of this court I form my method of proceedings, and determine, in like manner, by the feelings in my own mind.

The gentlemen who gave the information in the laſt chapter, I think very exceptionable; the firſt had been in the ſame way with the defendant, that is, he was a travelling tutor to youth of fortune and faſhion; but from extraordinary abilities .... unſhaken fidelity, with a certain mode of addreſs, pleaſing to men of underſtanding, he ſoon worm'd himſelf into the poſt of under-ſecretary of ſtate; but notwithſtanding he ſoar'd ſo much above his original profeſſion, his good ſenſe could never permit him to loſe ſight of it .... and that particular pride, which an upright heart inſeparably poſſeſſes, made him ever tenacious of holding the

first rank in every office which his own merit, or the chance of fortune, threw him in: it was from his being foremoſt in the liſt of tutors, that he might poſſibly be jealous of Mr. Schiſm (for that was the defendant's name) leſt he ſhould eclipſe his fame, and interfere with his primary reputation .... Or I am rather inclined to believe, it proceeded from thoſe relative duties, which every good man owes to his fellow-creature, not meant as perſonal reflexions, but as general hints, to inſtruct parents to be more obſervant than they generally are in the choice of men to fill up thoſe ardent and important truſts.

The general was too honeſt to neglect the intereſt he was ſerving .... and too gallant to depart from the road of honour, to attend to inferior occurences which con-

concern'd neither: for whilſt he was promoting the ſervice of the directors, and gathering laurels for himſelf, he was indifferent how the reverend arboriſt trimm'd the tree of religion, to force out thoſe collateral branches which furniſh a ſhelter for the different forms of devotion, not only in the different parts of the world, but in the ſame country; he might therefore only intend it in a vein of pleaſantry, to join in the ridicule againſt thoſe men, whoſe buſineſs it is to prevent it, and who, from an unbecoming levity of deportment, expoſe themſelves too much to the laugh of humour and gaiety.

The increaſe of ſectaries muſt encourage the growth of atheiſm; for when the mind of man is ſo divided upon the precepts of religion, he will ſettle to

no one; for if either ſhould chance to diſapprove his predominant paſſion, he will the eaſier depart from all, and doubt the exiſtence of a deity who will ſuffer his word to be miſunderſtood, and explained to the motives of ſelf-intereſt, and all the ſubtleties of the moſt refined policy; to be an inſtrument in the hands of an arbitrary prince, to prepare the mind for the ſlavery of the body; or, in a more confined view, to gratify the avarice or reſentment of private apoſtates.

The Chriſtan religion wants no champion to defend it; it is ſtrong enough of itſelf, and only wants proper officers to maintain the diſcipline of it.

The too common complaints exhibited againſt the Proteſtant clergy might be corrected, if the dignitaries of our church would,

would, at their viſitations, eat and drink leſs, and enquire more into the conduct of thoſe ſubordinate to them; they would then be convinced that the ſervice of God was neglected, and the people running wild for want of a ſhepherd to guard their morals, and keep them within the fold of truth and righteouſneſs.

I make this obſervation in the latitude of Lincolnſhire, where a poor curate, (like a common hack) is riding poſt every Sunday, from village to village, to earn as many crowns as he is able to repeat the formula of the day .... conſequently hurries through the ſervice with the ſame expedition as he gallops thro' the country, to diſpatch as much buſineſs in as little time as he can .... Upon an equal footing are thoſe players who act at Bartholomew-fair, they hurry through

their parts to receive the wages of having performed their droll ſeven times that day.

This is one of the many evils ariſing from a plurality of livings: for as one man cannot poſſibly perform the duties of his many churches, he leaves the care of ſome, or all of them, to a needy ſubſtitute, who, for want of ſubſiſtence, accepts the drudgery upon his patron's hardeſt terms; for the ſame kind of œconomy which agitated the man of intereſt to apply for many benefices, inſtructs him in the choice of his journeyman.

If a church falls down, the ruins are kept ſacred and undiſturbed; there is no application made to rebuild it; becauſe if the houſe of God ſhould be repaired, the rector muſt be called from his ſtate

of

of ſupineneſs to diſcharge his duty to his Creator, and to the people under his cure.

Thus the Proteſtant religion is unhappily neglected in the eaſtward part of Lincolnſhire ..... Within the ſmall diſtance of twelve miles, between Wragby and Louth (a part the moſt thinly inhabited of any in the county, where perhaps you will not find upwards of 500 families, including the villages you paſs by) the poor people are ſo perplexed in their notions of religious worſhip, that you meet with Non-jurors, Anabaptiſts, Preſbyterians, Culamites, and Papiſts without number.

Therefore, as his Lordſhip always acted conſiſtent with his character, he might, perhaps, in indignation, level this ſarcaſm

caſm at ſome particular clergyman of his acquaintance, whoſe eaſy diſpoſition of mind could diſpenſe with his clerical function, to accept of a temporal employment in the company's ſervice, and ſo give up the intereſt of heaven for the mammon of unrighteouſneſs.

I hope this paraphraſe upon the exceptionable part of my book is full as clear as Bochart . . . Grotius . . . . Edwards . . . Calmet . . . Poole . . . Patrick . . . with many other learned commentators, not to mention the moral patrimony bequeathed us by St. Auſtin . . . . Chryſoſtom, and many other ſainted and unſainted fathers, are, in their attempts to elucidate the exceptionable parts in the books of Moſes, &c.

It is now time to reſume the hiſtory, and to let you into the ſecret that the reverend Mr. Schiſm and Simon Sapſkull, Eſq; are about taking leave of my grandfather, who with an air of ſolemn dignity, wiſhed them an agreeable and an entertaining journey, at the ſame time very emphatically ſubjoined this particular caution, that his ſon Simon muſt never aſſociate himſelf with vulgar commoners .... that the ſon of an Engliſh baronet, of his antiquity, was at leaſt equal to any nobleman of France.

Thus having received the moſt material part of their inſtructions, they proceed on their way to Dover.

They paſs over Weſtminſter-bridge, paying but a ſorry regard to that vaſt improvement, it being thought by Mr. Schiſm

Schiſm to be a work of no great conſequence, that it was calculated for the particular eaſe and convenience of gentlemen travelling that road, and no way intended to be an ornament, or deſign'd for any real uſe, as many ignorant people have pretended to ſupport .... He very ſagaciouſly obſerved, a man of an indolent diſpoſition might repoſe himſelf very comfortably upon thoſe improved ways, and thought it very natural to ſuppoſe, that the perſon who firſt projected that coſtly edifice, was a man of indulgence, and lov'd to eaſe himſelf at the public expence.

Having thus delivered his opinion, with great confidence of this *bagatelle* (as he called it) they ſet forward on their intended journey in ſtupid ſilence, till the tops of the churches convinc'd Mr.

Schiſm

Schiſm that he was entering the town of Dartford, as well as reminded him, he had great occaſion for a ſupplemental breakfaſt.... Taciturnity ſeem'd an enemy to his deſign, therefore he ſtarted that neceſſary poſition, and was very rhetorical to prove the neceſſity of taking ſome refreſhment, after having explor'd their way through ſuch an immenſity of duſt; and that he could not help confeſſing his conſtitution was too delicate to ſupport the ſhocking fatigue of long ſtages.

As eating and drinking were not among thoſe aukward things which the Sapſkulls have taken an averſion to, the 'ſquire therefore ſeem'd fully ſatisfy'd, that his tutor's argument was ſubſtantial and founded on a ſolid principle, ſo halloo'd orders immediately for the boy to

ſtop,

ſtop, when his learned companion directed him to a certain inn, moſt remarkable for a formidable ſet of jolly topers, who with great conſtancy and reſolution meet every fore-noon to drink ſhame and defiance to the ſtaggering deity.

Amazing raſhneſs! when thoſe very people know, that ſeveral worthy clergymen in that vicinity, have fallen a ſacrifice to the powerful heathen.

By this inſinuation, I do not mean to intimate that ſuch intemperate bravery could induce Mr. Schiſm to prefer this houſe; I muſt (and am confident every good Chriſtian will do the ſame) entertain quite different ſentiments of him, as he was originally, in holy orders, a zealous, and, I hope, a faithful member of the church of Rome, and (upon ſome

religious

religious motives) for many years, with ſevereſt ceremony, wore the habit of a Capuchin brother.

And every one (however obſtinately prejudiced) muſt know, that thoſe ſanctify'd, broad-ſhoulder'd gentlemen have no paſſions to gratify .... as will be prov'd in the next chapter.

CHAP. VIII.

Contains a very remarkable ſtory, the like was known but once before, and never will be heard ſuch another again.

GENTLE reader, my deſire of pleaſing you compels me to betray a private converſation; for it is my duty at leaſt to make ſome attempt towards

wards ſatisfying your inſatiable curioſity, which muſt be upon the look-out to diſcover why Mr. Schiſm ſhould prefer this particular houſe.

Suſpend your impatience till I inform you, that the reaſon why Mr. Schiſm made choice of this houſe was, becauſe it reminded him of his great fortitude in reſiſting the faireſt temptation: for you muſt know, not many years are paſt, ſince this ſame reverend gentleman travelled this ſame road with a young lady, juſt turned of twenty (entruſted to his care): to uſe his own words, "She had "all the charms of a Venus, with the "ſeeming chaſtity of Diana."

They made this inn the houſe of reſt .... eat plentifully .... drank chearfully .... the hour was come when ſleep invites

invites the weary traveller to-bed .... they withdraw.

This queen of beauty, in the flame of paſſion (I hope no violent methods were uſed to kindle it) attempted to ſeduce her virtuous guardian from his moderate purpoſe! .... Unluckily for one, or both of them, it was ill-timed; for he, like Joſeph, withſtood the kind melting invitation of his miſtreſs, and gave up preſent bliſs for future expectation! .... I wiſh every prieſt would profit by his example.

This ſtory he told me in confidence, and I hope every reader will be generous enough not to reveal the ſecret, for in our ſenſual days it may do the doctor public diſcredit.

As infidelity is as much the mark of faſhion, as chaſtity is a vulgar accompliſhment, ſo between the politeneſs of Potipha's wife, and the want of good breeding in Joſeph, my ſtory has ſuffered in its credit, by having loſt its originality.

CHAP. IX.

The effects of taſte.

BUT not to detain you longer with his reverence, than he and my father ſtay'd at the inn for their breakfaſt, I will proceed in the narrative.

Whilſt the ſervants were employed in the preparatives neceſſary for this anti-

meridian

meridian luncheon, or as the Creoles (who conſtantly practiſe it) call it, the ſecond breakfaſt, urged by a laudable curioſity, they ſallied out to make profitable obſervations upon material occurrences.

After a cogitative taciturnity of half an hour, the tutor broke ſilence, by admiring the vaſt progreſs the Engliſh had made in the polite arts, particularly that of painting; that there wanted no other evidence to evince the truth of this remark, than the pleaſing variety and well executed pieces on the ſigns which decorated that ſmall town, which he imagin'd was one of the good effects of their charter; for he explain'd to my father, ſince the artiſts had, like the barber-ſurgeons (who in a reparative ſenſe are face painters) huſsled themſelves into a body un-

der particular immunities, there appeared an emulation at their annual exhibition, which promis'd as great a reputation to the Engliſh ſchools, as the prevalence of taſte has for a long time laviſhly beſtowed upon the Italian or Flemiſh.

As a lover of the arts, he obſerv'd, with great ſatisfaction and delight, that the red lion was coloured very naturally .... that the hog in armour was painted to the life, and that there was an elegant propriety in the bear and gridiron .... at the ſame time ſmiled contemptuouſly on my father for want of taſte, not ſeeming enraptur'd at the excellence of thoſe ingenious performances.

Not to pay the young gentleman any extraordinary compliment, it was perhaps

haps the moſt favourable ſymptom of genius he had ever diſcover'd, therefore we muſt not omit to mention ſuch a notable inſtance of his abilities; for, waving filial partiality, every one muſt allow, that in this he betray'd a little fluttering of underſtanding; for by not declaring his diſapprobation, he preſerv'd a ſenſible and proper regard to the perſon from whom he was taught to expect improvement, without hazarding his cenſure.

As that affectation of taſte in Mr. Schiſm muſt be encouraged, by ſome means or other .... for every effect has its cauſe .... and as the cauſe (which I ſhall attempt to prove a natural one) that produced this heterogeneous effect is of the utmoſt importance to a modern inſtitution, I ſhall draw upon me the re-

ſentment of the corporation of artiſts, if I ſhould omit giving it a place in a new chapter.

CHAP. X.

Avarice a bad qualification for a public officer .... Party the deſtruction of all ſocieties.

THE inſtability of human nature appears in every ſecond action of a man's life; that I am in poſſeſſion of this original principle, is to a demonſtration clear, by the pains I took to preſerve the good opinion of the artiſts in the cloſe of the laſt chapter, and the indifference with which I venture to forfeit their eſteem in the beginning of this! .... but they

they are too ingenious to be angry .... and it is the temper of mankind to take liberties with thoſe, who have neither time or inclination to exerciſe their reſentments.

I am offended at the ſoleciſm in the beginning of their charter, and more ſo from their betraying the firſt and beſt man in the kingdom into a quarrel with good breeding, by making him call them out of their name .... They are virtually a corporation, not a ſociety .... Antiquity gives a propriety to the firſt, for we read of corporations being eſtabliſh'd in the time of the Anglo-Saxons, long before ſocieties were heard of in Britain .... and I am ſure their conduct in the management of their immediate concerns, proves the unfitneſs of their right to the latter.

Society implies a congregation of men united in good fellowſhip, for the promotion of their common intereſt.

His Majeſty, ſenſible of the neceſſity of this union, gave them Concord for a ſupporter to their arms, that is, to their undertakings; but the directors explain away the intent of this hieroglyphic by their unſteadineſs, and therein ſeem to think, becauſe ſhe is placed on the ſiniſter ſide, that Concord was intended as a left-handed compliment.

But theſe gentlemen ſhould remember, they oblige themſelves by their charter, to aid, adviſe, and aſſiſt, in every thing which relates to the better regulation and government of their ſociety, as it is unaptly called; and that a neglect of this part of their obligation, is an indi-

rect

rect cenſure upon the intention of their royal patron.

They further oblige themſelves to hold meetings for the improvement of Painting, Sculpture, Drawing, &c. which is a tacit injunction for the directors to form an academy for that purpoſe, and the t——r is doubly bound to conform to the obſervance of this recommendation by his double capacity .... Is it not a diſhonour to the eſtabliſhment, to ſeparate this uſeful, this material article from their general plan, and inſtitute an independant academy, under the auſpices of that great name, which ſhould ſanctify every pretenſion from their charter, and thereby ſtrengthen every ſinew of their body?

How

How can ſuch diſloyalty be reconcil'd to the integrity of a public officer?

By the diſſenſions which weaken the influence, and leſſen the dignity of his old maſters .... and the genius of Policy has at all times directed miniſters to deſert the impotence of their lawful ſovereign to ſecure their fortunes by the ſtrength of uſurpation.

And by the ſtatutes there is a moral tye upon Mr. T———r; for there he ſwears that he will, to the utmoſt of his power, promote the honour and intereſt of the ſociety, *&c.*

How will he avoid the reproaches of his conſcience, upon a breach of this oath?

Conſcience

Conſcience has little to do with the intereſt of this world; for religion can only grant a patent for advantages in the next.

Farewell, Mr. T——r; and notwithſtanding thou remaineſt an officer to the ſociety of artiſts, I expel thee from the aſſociation of ideas, which form in my mind the character of a faithful ſervant.

And now I addreſs myſelf to the reſpectable perſon of Mr. S———y, who is directed, by a ſtatute, to keep a fair copy of all the minutes, *&c. &c.* .... But as I am convinc'd (the extraordinary advertiſements which laſt year figur'd away in the public papers, is a ſufficient teſtimony) by the frequent altercations of the directors and fellows, that ſome reſolutions

reſolutions enter'd into by the firſt, either from the heat of liquor, or the warmth of faction, having been abrogated by the cooler remonſtrances of the latter, muſt have occaſioned many obliterations in their minutes; I would therefore recommend Mr. S———y to conform to the ſtatute, and begin a new book; at the ſame time I would adviſe the directors to begin upon a new ſyſtem, that the ſtatutes may be obſerved, and the intent and dignity of their charter ſupported.

Thus having taken a curſory review of their charter, I ſhall offer my opinion upon the utility, with the ſame freedom as I have treated the abuſe of it, that is, with the freedom of a friend; for I not only profeſs myſelf a lover of the polite arts, but an enthuſiaſt in my affection for

thoſe

thoſe gentlemen whoſe talents give reputation to them .... Men enobled by their abilities hold the firſt rank in my eſteem; it is from that veneration I feel an uncommon emotion of concern, that ſo reſpectable a body as the artiſts of Great Britain ſhould be abridg'd in their immunities .... leſſen'd in their importance, and injur'd in their credit, by the ſubtilty of ſome .... the tyranny of others, and an unpardonable compliance in all, which will neceſſarily bring me back to the cauſe I was mentioning in the laſt chapter, that affected Mr. Schiſm in that extraordinary manner, as to raiſe in his mind a notion of things, as elevated, and as much out of his reach, as the impending furniture of a ſign-poſt, which ſtruck his admiration at Dartford.

The

The academies for painting, ſculpture, architecture, &c. imagined by Perault, and encouraged by that great miniſter and friend of the arts, Colbert, under the auſpices of the moſt munificent prince their patron, civilized the genius of the French nation, and gave them ſuch a reliſh for the arts and ſciences, that they became the mode of converſation in all polite aſſemblies; they inſpired men of parts to write in their favour, only from an idea of their refinement .... The Abbé de Bos obliged the world with his Reflections upon Poetry, Painting, and Muſic, though he could never write a poem, was not poſſeſſed of a ſingle picture, and did not underſtand a note of muſic.

When the artiſts have combined the effects produced from their charter, they will

will viſibly diſcern great advantages accruing from it; they will know that their annual exhibitions have brought numbers of people, not only to ſee pictures, but admire them, who never ſaw any before, conſequently had no idea of the delight reſulting from ſo glorious a ſight.

To ſee the genius of Great Britain emerging from the obſcurity of former times to diſtinguiſh the age of George the Third.... To ſee the palm which had long flouriſhed upon the brow of foreigners, wither at the exceeding excellence of our countrymen.... To ſee the reputation of the ancients (a few excepted) weakened by the ſuperior merit of modern painters, muſt rouze ev'ry Engliſhman, from a ſenſe of gratitude, to cultivate the arts in his own country,

and

and not blindly yield to the faſhion of former times, and encourage productions of foreign growth, which have nothing to recommend them but the perſuaſion of falſe taſte, and the favourable diſpoſition we ſhew to every thing that is exotic.

Every diſpaſſionate judge, who views not Britiſh performances through Italian ſpectacles, muſt confeſs that many of our hiſtorical pieces, landſcapes, ſea-views, portraits, converſations; with the productions of many others in their different walk, would ornament the firſt gallery in any kingdom of the world.

The artiſts will be convinced, as well by Mr. Schiſm's affectation of taſte, as from the attempts of many others, that their exhibitions will inſtruct people to

talk

talk of paintings who never knew, or ever will know, what a picture is .... the virtu (a magical word imported from Italy, which has impoſed upon the underſtandings of mankind for a number of years) was formerly confined to a few mercenary old fellows, who (for reaſons very well known to every one) ſeem'd blind to the beauties of a living artiſt, yet could diſcover perfections which never exiſted in a dead one ... which illuſtrates what an ingenious author has obſerv'd, that during the lives of celebrated artiſts, droſs is mixed with their gold, and the ſeparation is made by death .... Whereas, that fondneſs for the polite arts, will now be more diffuſed, and thoſe who have diſcovered this new delight, we ſee daily purſue their pleaſures to every auction, and by the aſſiſtance of a catalogue, can run over the names

of the great maſters, and can deceive themſelves and their friends with the ſame facility as the virtu of old uſed to cheat all the world, and in like manner affect to diſtinguiſh the traces of their pencils as well as they knew the hand-writing of their moſt intimate acquaintance.

I ſhall quote one inſtance to prove, that the language of the virtu has inſinuated itſelf even amongſt the lower order of mechanics . . . Mr. Staytape, who finiſhes my drapery, infected with the common diſeaſe, diſpenſes with the induſtry of his own profeſſion to become a connoiſſeur in painting; and inſtead of keeping his books, he talks of the keeping in pictures; never thinks of compounding with his creditors, he is ſo intent upon the compoſition of Ryſdale!

He

.... He challeng'd me the other day at Langford's, and producing his catalogue, aſked me very ſerioufly, what ſchool Mr. Ditto belonged to, as he obſerv'd, in every ſale; there were more of his painting than any other maſter, and ſome of them equal in merit to Hannibal Scratchi, Jaſper Puſhpin, or Domine Chinno.

Upon the precept of intereſt, every one ſhould exert himſelf in obedience to the charter; he ſhould manifeſt his gratitude by promoting the purpoſe of it... He ſhould compliment the freedom of the ſtatutes by a becoming independence, and not proſtitute the idea of civility, by ſlaviſhly ſubmitting to a ſervant of the corporation, becauſe he can open his mouth to the patron of it.

That there is a ſpirit of emulation, is a propoſition not to be doubted; for we ſee, in this age of improvement, novelties ariſe to ſurpriſe people into new diſcoveries .... The magilp was a noſtrum known only to the ancients; but our modern artiſts, unſatisfy'd at their not being in the ſecret, have labour'd with infinite drudgery to find out this valuable myſtery, and, as they ſay, with ſome degree of ſucceſs; for a few have hit upon a compoſition which leaves not the opaque ſkin, the legacy of expreſs'd oils, which apparently clouds the effect, and like a thick-headed interpreter, very imperfectly explains the imagination of the painter; on the contrary, the magilp produces that warmth and ſerenity which characterizes the peculiar merit of Claude Lorraine, and gives a truer repreſentation of life in the pictures of Ti-

tian

tian .... The gentleman who gave the alarm, more curious in his reſearches than the reſt, committed a rape upon the body of Venus painted by the celebrated Titian, and brought away a piece of her buttock, to find out the ſecret by the divine flavour of her ladyſhip's backſide.

By what I have obſerv'd, there ſeems nothing wanting to complete the deſign of the corporation, but men of weight and temper in the direction of it .... There can be no objection to the knowledge and experience of the gentleman who preſides at the board; but Monſieur Voltaire tells me of a certain painter, and a good one too, who painted almoſt all objects of a yellow hue, of which colour they appeared to him, through a particular conformation

of his organs of ſight .... I ſhould therefore ſuſpect that the preſident, who is otherwiſe an ingenious man, muſt have ſome ſuch diſorder in his optics, and that he ſees objects through a falſe medium; for, from the purple tint of his late productions, any one would imagine he was given to drinking, and by frequently holding a bumper of red wine to his head, he views every thing through the intervention of his liquor.

As there are factious men in all collective bodies, I am not ſo ſanguine to ſuppoſe, but there are many in the corporation of artiſts, who will take theſe reflections to themſelves, and be angry at the liberties I have taken with them .... but when their paſſion is over, I hope they will conſider me in the character I wiſh to appear in, an advocate

for

for the arts in general, and be as ready as I am to enter into a treaty of reconciliation; with this pleasing hope I take my leave.

I must hurry back to the *t'te a tête* party I left at Dartford, lest Mr. Schism should be impatient at my delay, and reproach me for staying so long with my friends in Spring Gardens.

CHAP. XI.

A conversation piece, quite modern.

THEY return to the inn . . . . . eat immoderately . . . . incessantly bellowing out for more toast, till having at length tired themselves and the waiter, they

put an end to this important buſineſs, by calling for and diſcharging the bill, to the ſatisfaction of the red-nos'd landlord, and his fair-fac'd aſſiſtant, who bowed their heads in token of thankfulneſs.

They enter'd their chaiſe, and drove away with that life and ſpirit which marks the impatience of young wiſdom in ſearch of knowledge, or diſtinguiſhes the levity of a coxcomb in purſuit of folly .... ſpurred on by the genius of ambition to overtake thoſe advantages which men of polite ideas expect to find in foreign courts .... nay, in foreign alleys too.

The tutor, who was before ſilent (not knowing the temper of my father, till he had taſted the firſt fruits of his generoſity) began now to ſet his chattering faculties in motion .... He opened ſuch a ſcene

a ſcene of expectation ! .... ſuch raviſhing delights ! that my father (warm'd by the deſcription) broke through that plan of reſpectful decency he had before laid down as the regulator of his conduct, and enquired very minutely into every circumſtance that might, with probability, attend his future adventures.

Upon which hint the prudent Mr. Schiſm, with his uſual diſcretion, continued .... My noble 'ſquire, as ſoon as we have croſs'd the water, and left this ſeat of barbarous and vulgar entertainment *au deriere*, we ſhall enter *l'hotel du Monde* (for it was now our genius began to diſcover that he was a petty larceny rogue, and like our modern little gentry had pilfer'd a few French ſentences, which he very judiciouſly retailed upon every occaſion) there is Monſieur Grand-

ſire

ſire .... the *genio loci*; he can provide us excellent *vin de Bouraeaux*, *des Poulardes* .... *foutre des*.

My father bluſhed at the word *foutre*, but however, not to overblame my papa's modeſty, it is an aukward, though a very common expreſſion, and perpetually uſed by the *gens d' eſprits* of France, and thoſe who underſtand the idiom of the language, know it is a ridiculous word, ſignifying nothing (the epitome of the country) and thoſe who do not underſtand it, are deſired to make no indecent conſtruction.

Food which ſhould be ſerv'd up only at the tables of princes, or *les gens comme ils faut*, men of equal rank with yourſelf .... and then for women! .... *mon Dieu!* .... *belles comme les amour!*

If

If the profound critic in his reſearches ſhould diſcover the French imperfectly tranſcribed, he muſt recollect the doctor underſtood the language no better perhaps than myſelf.

It is this ſpot which reminds me of the creation ... Women in England are but half-form'd .... and then ſo ſuſceptible of every thing that is ſoft .... *tel vivacité!* .... ſo generous! ſo laviſh of their favours, that you ſeldom hear of a fool running mad, or a puppy drowning himſelf for the cruelty of a miſtreſs.

Lord, Mr. Sapſkull, your perſonal accompliſhments .... your family connexions ... your conſequence in life may command the embraces of *madame la ducheſſe*.

At this inſinuation, my father, with eager ſpeech, and words half utter'd, enquir'd ... What ... the French king's miſtreſs ... indeed! ... are you ſerious! ... What a noble acquiſition! .... and do you really think .... is it your ſincere opinion, I could cuckold the grand monarque? .... egad, how future hiſtories will ſpeak of me! .... But do you imagine .... why, really, I anticipated ſomething of all this! ... Lord, Mr. Schiſm, I ſhall be the admiration of all the world! .... What an opinion the ladies of England will have of me! ... How I ſhall be envied! .... I ſhall be the theme of ſlander and detraction, and yet out of the reach of both! .... O glorious Sapſkull! I knew thou wert born to be a great man!

This ſort of converſation deceived the time till they reached Canterbury, and from ſuch looſe diſcourſe it is no wonder if they arrived in a warm habit of body.

I ſhall cloſe this chapter with expreſſing my fears, that my father is not the only one of the family who are ſent abroad but ill provided for the expedition ... who like him are only furniſh'd with foppery to ornament the body, and vanity to gratify it, without a ſingle ingredient to embelliſh the mind, or an article to keep their virtue from ſinking into indecencies.

CHAP.

CHAP. XII.

Village modesty may skip this chapter.

DO not be censorious, reader, when I have informed you, that as soon as they enter'd the inn, Mr. Schism enquir'd very affectionately after the chambermaid, who immediately made her appearance .... a buxom wench, on the luscious side of twenty .... her breast prominent .... her eyes look'd wantonness .... hereditary health glow'd in her cheeks .... and (as his reverence was pleased to say) full of sins.

I beg leave to premise, that men of loose ideas may put wanton constructions on the following incident, and endeavour to give an unfavourable turn to the

the whole tranſaction .... but I defy the malice of ſuch proſtitutes.

They retired into an upper chamber, the reaſon appears obvious, for I can conceive no other, than privately to receive her confeſſion, and abſolve her from the many tranſgreſſions, omiſſions, irregularities, and enormities, which prey'd upon her mind, and render'd her the object of his concern and protection.

It was ſome time before the doctor return'd, when he declared it was an arduous taſk to bring a virgin (obſtinately baſhful) to the humiliating attitude of proſternation, that is, to her cubicular devotion; that for his part he had left no ſtone unturned to tempt her to compliance, and thereby to penetrate her ſecrets .... that he prevail'd at laſt, and by

by the force of ſome weighty fundamental arguments, he brought her to a plentiful emiſſ—— Aye, emiſſion .... ſure no perſon can be baſe enough to think I mean any other than the emiſſion of her ſins.

But a man who wiſhes well to his own character, ought, in theſe our cenſorious days, to travel with Johnſon's dictionary in his portmanteau, that he may know the various readings of every word, before he commits it to writing, leſt ſome malicious interpretation ſhould explain away his pretenſions to modeſty, and lay him open to the corrections of the world.

That ſhe ſeem'd fully ſatisfy'd with his ſpiritual applications, and concluded, that he thought himſelf the happieſt man, inaſmuch as ſhe found in him the inſtrument

ment of taming the wild defires . . . the favage intemperance, which too aptly and too violently rages in fuch fanguine conftitutions . . . . and indeed (as my father has often been heard to fay) the doctor feem'd vaftly fatigu'd with his labour.

What has puzzled many people (friends to Mr. Schim) and indeed what has greatly ftagger'd me in my opinion of him, was, that the converfation which before animated, now feem'd naufeous and un-entertaining to this pious gentleman, and with feverity of brow chid my father for brooding over fuch light conceits! . . . . For my part (as I am always ready to take the beft natur'd fide of the queftion) I can provide him with an apology.

Charity, my friends, is a becoming virtue .... conſider the important buſineſs his reverence had been engag'd in .... remember the ſubject he had to work upon .... and then every one of you muſt acknowledge, it was boldly done to dive into the bottom of impurity, and with much ſtruggling obtain the ſigh of conſolation .... the fluttering emotion of a ſtorm ſubſiding .... therefore ceaſe your aſtoniſhment; for as the doctor was quite ſpent with his labour, it is no miracle that ſuch converſation was (particularly at that time) impertinent and taſteleſs to him .... What ſenſible man can endure a paltry farce after a good play?

In order to recover ſtrength, and fortify himſelf for a ſecond bout of the ſame nature (for he was inſatiably wanton

ton after good actions) he propoſed having dinner directly, which he ſaid would recruit his ſpirits, and enable him to purſue and puſh on his deſign with freſh vigour; for as he had already gone ſuch great lengths, he was determin'd not to part with her till he had filled her with the ſeed of devotion, and by that ſort of plenitude leave her a living monument of his immenſe capacity.

Margery (for that was the name of the fair penitent) in ſome diſorder ſpreads the cloth .... the bluſh of conviction could hardly be diſtinguiſh'd from the vermillion which nature had ſettled on her cheeks.

All this time the doctor, reclining his head upon his arm, which reſted upon his knee, looked downward; ſo that his

face was totally concealed beneath the eaves of his canonical beaver; but when our luſty chambermaid, by an aukward reluctance, gave the hint that ſhe was leaving the room, the doctor, with ſlow ſolemnity, and in a deep tone of voice, exhorted her not to be out of the way .... ſhe by a quick motion of her —— ſome ſide or other, gave a tacit promiſe of her ready obedience.

Dinner is ſerv'd up, where we will leave them to gluttonize over a plentiful repaſt.

As books of conſequence are never ſtudied but in a morning, ſo I am inclined to think it is not yet the hour of breakfaſt with my ſenſible readers .... However, a little refreſhment early as it may be, will be very agreeable, particularly at this time, as it will enable you to

to go through the next ſtage, that is, the next chapter, with ſpirit and chearfulneſs.

CHAP. XIII.

Perſeverance.

AS ſleep is generally the epilogue to a good entertainment, ſo the doctor, after he had play'd a principal part, opened the vaſt extenſion of his jaws, and with hideous yawning gave dreadful ſymptoms of his ſlumbering diſpoſition.

As the doctor was a man of ſtrict œconomy in every action of life, and very punctual to his engagements, ſuppoſe this fit of lethargy ſhould be only a forg'd pretence to deceive my father,

that he might keep his appointment with Mrs. Margery unſuſpected, who by this time had gobbled down her dinner, and (natural enough) waited with ſome degree of impatience for her holy helpmate.

But then, can deceit be conſiſtent with piety? ....

Evil productive of good was a maxim allow'd in heathen philoſophy, and as a man of learning I ſuppoſe his reverence embrac'd that doctrine, at leaſt it had the appearance of it .... he watched a favourable opportunity to ſteal from the table, and was ſeen to go up the back ſtairs in great ſecrecy, with the purify'd chambermaid.

We may ſuppoſe they got into ſome private apartment, where we will leave them

them to their amuſements; for it is neither your buſineſs or mine to diſturb them .... nay, it would be uncharitable in me who think well of them ... and for thoſe few who may perchance entertain light thoughts of them, moſt ungenerous and unkind, becauſe I am ſure men of ſuch conceited wickedneſs muſt often find themſelves in the ſame ſituation.

CHAP. XIV.

An injudicious education a fatal miſtake.

NO ſooner was my father left to his own reflexions, but he conſider'd himſelf in all the wantonneſs of Pride.... he revolved in his mind the glories of futurity .... for if you remember, he was prepared to receive ſuch impreſſions,

which nouriſh the growth of vanity and the impertinence of ſelf-conceit .... His life was to be an uninterrupted ſtream of pleaſure! .... a perpetual calm! .... to bathe in bliſs at will, and when enjoyment ceas'd, to glide inſenſibly away!

Such gaudy dreams employ'd his ſleepy thoughts .... untaught, he knew no better .... a ſtranger to the hurricanes in life, the rapid tides, torrents, which ſweep felicity away! .... for (as you ſee) my father enter'd the world unprotected from ſuch perils .... unguarded from ſuch formidable accidents.

Unhappy youth! .... How unfortunate are many who are born rich! for upon the conſideration of that ſcanty portion of happineſs, they loſe many more material advantages ..... they ſee the

world

world only at a diſtance, and there is no doubt but the perſpective pleaſes .... but every man ſhould view it in a concave mirror, for the ſame reaſon that a lady examines her face, to find out the deformities of it, and extract thoſe worms which canker and deſtroy its fair appearance.

But to return to my father ..... He, poor man, was loſt for ſome time in the gay deluſion, and no doubt would have continued much longer, had he not been diſturb'd from the pleaſing lethargy by a ſervant's putting a letter into his hands with the ſlyeſt caution .... A certain eagerneſs of joy ſparkled in his eyes! ... his heart flutter'd! and the whole man was tremulating with affection! .... not the effect of deliberate generous love to any particular lady .... he was too great

a man

a man to ſuffer nature to direct his ſentiments .... but from the violent agitations of ſelf-partiality, which operated ſo forcibly upon his mind, that he could conceive it to be nothing more or leſs than a billet-doux from ſome fair lady of rank and condition, who was enamour'd with his perſon and fortune! ....

He tore open the ſeal .... but alas! how was he mortify'd when he read .... as follows:

" Mr. Schiſm preſents his compliments " to 'Squire Sapſkull .... informs him " that he is at this time engaged, much " to his ſatisfaction:"

None but the devil can doubt it.

" That for a very ſenſible reaſon, he in- " tends ſtaying at Canterbury this night:"

It

It would be very fooliſh and very remiſs if he did not .... Mr. W—y is of the ſame opinion, who ſays, when a prieſt is ſo far gone into any body's affairs, he cannot when he pleaſes withdraw .... his devotees muſt be ſatisfy'd .... he exemplifies it, for his dark intrigues produces the new light, and his love-feaſts convinces me, that if our clergy would be as watchful and active as he is of nights, they would gain as many female proſelytes to their doctrine, as the ſaint of Tottenham-Court or the Seven Dials.

" Entreats the 'ſquire not to be too laviſh
" of his time, but to improve every mo-
" ment of it .... therefore earneſtly de-
" ſires, he would walk about the city,
" and make proper obſervations upon
" the many things worthy his attention,
" but above all, not to omit taking no-

" tice

" tice particularly, how the ingenious " artiſt had embelliſhed the Black Bull, " by tipping the extreme parts of it with " gold."

My father, ſtung with reſentment, vowed revenge againſt the doctor, for diſappointing him in the lap of imaginary pleaſures, and in the vehemence of his pride uttered ſome indecent expreſſions; .... for ſwearing at all times, and upon whatever occaſion, is highly unbecoming a gentleman, and however faſhionable it may be, it is repugnant to good manners and real delicacy .... he curſed the doctor .... damned the Black Bull and his extremities, and in the fury of reſentment ſally'd forth, fully reſolved not to look at a ſign in the whole city.

As I am very diffident of my own opinion, in matters of education, therefore the reader's judgment muſt determine, whether this angry reſolution was any impediment to the neceſſary accompliſhments? .... or whether it obſtructed the end for which youth of fortune are ſent into the world?

Perhaps the doctor might have ſome reference to ancient hiſtory, when he ſo particularly marked out the Black Bull and his golden extremities, as an object worthy the attention of his pupil .... yet ſurely in this favourable view, he muſt be conſidered rather remiſs, in not enforcing his inſtruction, by explaining to his charge, that the ſign he pointed out for his obſervation, derived the propriety of golden horns from the credit of antiquity ..... that the Grecians in

their

their petitionary ſacrifices, when they had ſome important favour to aſk, uſed to enrich their victim, by tipping his horns with gold, in order to bribe the mercenary God to propitiate their appeal .... but theſe gratuities were only offered to the inferior deities, who were the miniſters of ſtate to Jupiter, and as corruptible as moſt great officers are; for having the ſame venal affections, their judgment and integrity were in the ſame manner perverted to the maxims of ſelf-intereſt, whenever gold was the argument.

And tell me ye miniſters of gods, and men like gods, which of ye can withſtand the force of ſuch reaſoning?

Whether Mr. Schiſm's mode of inſtruction was right or wrong, was not a conſi-

conſideration with my father, he was reſolved not to profit by his admonitions, and was unalterable in his determination, for inſtead of philoſophizing on things above him, he rather appeared with a ſupercilious ſtubborneſs, counting the number of pebbles under his feet .... his eyes were rivetted to the ſubject he ſeemed to contemplate .... his brow intrenched, ſeem'd fortify'd againſt the approaches of humanity, and the whole man ſo collected, that he looked as if he was meditating miſchief againſt all the world.

The Sapſkulls are thoſe ſort of important people, who ſeem very tenacious of what they call honour, 'tis unconſtitutional in them to brook the leaſt appearance of diſreſpect, and a diſappointment in their vanities, is a violence which opens a wound never to be healed .....

the

the panacea of ſubmiſſion is to no effect! .... for as they have the meanneſs of ſpirit to imagine injuries, ſo they want generoſity to forgive them.

They are deſperate for want of reſolution! .... hence it is that ſo many brave men fall a ſacrifice to ungenerous and unnatural reſentments! .... but believe me, this abortion, this honour falſely conceived, is only to be found in the family of the Sapſkulls, and among ſharpers and military gamblers .... Fellows who have purchaſed their commiſſions by the ſucceſs of their artifice .... Wretches, who by their infamous practiſes, have diſgraced and lowered the dignity of the army, and rendered it contemptible in the opinion of too many.

We will comment upon it further in a new chapter.

CHAP.

CHAP. XV.

Upon honour.

LET us ſeriouſly conſider the ſource of theſe unſocial diſorders, and give a true character of this *deceptio viſus*, commonly called honour.

This ſame honour is a proſtituted cheat .... valour violated .... the ſharper's ſecurity. It is the baſis on which knaves and cowards build their reputation, for having none of their own, they are obliged to tack themſelves to the reputation of other people .... Such men as theſe, by working upon the fears of inexperienced youth, or yielding to the intemperate follies of grey hairs, make a ſort of forcible entry upon the

friendſhip of reſpectable characters whoſe tempers are not render'd deſperate, from the deſperation of their fortune, and by the countenance of ſuch men, they mix with all companies; ſo by the ſtrength of ſuch connexions they impoſe themſelves upon the world .... They deceive one part of it by the blaze of appearance, and frighten the other by the Shannonian front of impudence .... It is thus they force themſelves into a temporary credit, which if they can preſerve to any moderate length of time, they generally ſucceed in their plan of operations, and eſtabliſh their own happineſs upon the ruin of ſome opulent dowager, who in a violent fit of love reſigns her fortune to his prudent management, and her perſon to his contempt and abhorrence.

O honour,

O honour, how art thou debas'd! .... abus'd, and like a common whore art ſported with by every ruffian! .... This is the true eſtimate of modern honour, and now I have fix'd the value, I bequeath it to thoſe inglorious fools of faſhion, or no faſhion at all, who have infamy and impudence enough to accept it.

By my halting here, I ſhall conclude this chapter with Honour.

CHAP. XVI.

The progreſs of Ignorance.

MY father, who was in full poſſeſſion of this ſort of greatneſs, ſtill kept brooding over his vengeful reſolu-

tion .... till at length he was disturb'd from his profound reverie by the clangor of drums and trumpets at some little distance; he immediately hasten'd to the place from whence the sound proceeded, when a paper was put into his hands by one of those party-colour'd gentlemen, known in Scotland by the whimsical appellation of Merry Andrew, who by a particular knack of making wry faces, had engaged the attention of a gaping multitude of men, women, and children, who gazed with astonishment at his wonderful ingenuity, and even the haughty 'squire Sapskull suspended his anger, and deign'd to laugh with the crowd.

But so fickle and inconstant is human nature, that he at length grew weary of their grimace, so turning scornfully upon

on his heel, left them to proceed in their humour: he had not gone beyond the hearing of the crackling trumpet, which (with ſubmiſſion) reſembled the poſterior ſound, that notwithſtanding the moſt painful caution, crepitates from the ſqueez'd bum of ſome city prude after a city collation; but he recollected the paper which he (regardleſs of its conſequence) was torturing betwixt his fore-finger and thumb; he open'd it with ſome eagerneſs, and read

No ſecret, but what all the world may read .... as follows:

With Authority.

By command of Captain Thunderbolt, this preſent evening will be perform'd, at the Blue Barn behind the Cat and Por-

ridge-pot, The tragical, bloody, and inhuman tragedy of

JULIUS CÆSAR,

Containing the aſſaſſination of that mighty conqueror in the ſenate houſe. The life and death of thoſe two noble Romans, Brutus and Caſſius: with a full and true account how Portia, the daughter of Cato, and wife to Brutus, ſwallowed live coals to preſerve her chaſtity pure and inviolate. To which will be added a farce (written by 'ſquire Foote) call'd

The KNIGHTS.

The ſcenes, cloaths, decorations, &c. entirely new. Boxes one ſhilling, pit ſixpence, and gallery three-pence. *Vivant Rex et Regina.* N. B. Cynthia has given her parole to light the ladies home.

There

There are no characters in life compoſed of ſuch troubleſome materials as the inquiſitive ſort .... I am plagu'd to death with their importunities .... ten thouſand of my readers have been teizing me to know who Capt. Thunderbolt is .... Well, I will tell ye .... but not in this chapter.

CHAP. XVII.

The hiſtory of Captain Thunderbolt ..... a chapter as inſignificant as the ſubject of it.

CAPTAIN Thunderbolt was the ſon of a ſhopkeeper at Carliſle .... and though the ſon had the honour of a commiſſion, the father had the induſtry

to retail ſugar and red herrings, with ſo many other ſweet and ſtinking commodities, that were I, in imitation of Homer, Virgil, or Taſſo, to enumerate them, the catalogue of trumpery which Mr. Thunderbolt dealt in, would vaſtly exceed their catalogue of heroes, which were the articles of their commerce; and though perhaps not ſo well adapted to the ſubject of an epic poem, it might anſwer a more uſeful purpoſe, by inſtructing young beginners how to furniſh their ſhop .... But as my readers are all people of literature and faſhion, ſuch a detail would only ſerve to turn their ſtomach, and my thoughts from the ſubject I have in hand.

As old Mr. Thunderbolt was bleſs'd with good lungs, and had talents to exerciſe them to a good purpoſe at an election,

tion, he was always conſider'd of ſome uſe upon thoſe tumultuous occaſions, when the liberty of the ſubject is to be frighten'd away by the unconſtitutional freedom of the mercenary mob ..... wretches who ſell themſelves to the beſt bidder, and who are generally brib'd to ſuch unjuſtifiable proceedings by the candidate who has more money than intereſt, and depends more upon the fears than upon the affections of his conſtituents .... To ſecure Mr. Thunderbolt's Friendſhip was therefore neceſſary, and with that view the unfortunate general, who was drown'd on his paſſage to Ireland, made the ſon a great man by tranſplanting him from behind the compter into the army .... But though the ſon was proud of the commiſſion, ſtill the father was not aſham'd of his buſineſs ...

Wiſdom

Wiſdom and Folly would think in the ſame manner.

I do not think the army is a proper ſoil for a tradeſman to thrive in .... their minds are generally ſo narrow'd by their education, their ideas can never be exalted to that ſublime height which is neceſſary in the finiſhing a ſoldier.

The province of a ſoldier is to command, the buſineſs of a tradeſman is the moſt ſervile obedience, and he muſt feel himſelf uneaſy at the transfiguration, in proportion as he finds himſelf unqualify'd to fill up the character with an authoritative propriety .... Shuter makes an excellent Scrub, but he would appear very aukward in the part of Young Beville.

A ſoldier,

A ſoldier, by knowing how to command, knows how to obey .... it is his profeſſion to command .... to obey is his duty .... but his obedience is of the higheſt kind, deriv'd from the doctrine of morality .... it is due only to thoſe who are put in authority over him .... but a tradeſman (of the lower claſs) is compell'd by intereſt to ſubmit to the fellow who blacks his ſhoes, becauſe he buys his dirty materials of him.

It is from this miſtake we ſee ſo many coxcombs in the army; for by affecting the military gentleman, they over-act their part, and diſcover their mean original by attempting it.

Politeneſs, as the type of generoſity, characterizes the real ſoldier .... impertinence, the attribute of ignorance, betrays

trays the artificial one .... it is the behaviour diſtinguiſhes the character.

As young Mr. Thunderbolt is no longer in buſineſs, permit me, ladies, to introduce the captain to your parties .... he can reach the kettle ... handle the ſalver, and preſent the muffin with as much civility and decorum, as if he had ſerv'd an apprenticeſhip to the punctilio's of a tea table .... He has nothing of the Achilles about him, therefore do not ſuffer your apprehenſions to be alarm'd by this military acquaintance .... he can ſtare at a lion, and faint away at a mouſe.

The captain had no ſooner put on the outſide of a gentleman, but he ſet himſelf up (not in the buſineſs of his father) but in the more conſiſtent and delicate profeſſion of gallantry and taſte .... he

was

was maſter of the revels, and directed the public amuſements in the town where he boarded .... was always reſerve with his own ſex; but as he had his fortune to make appear'd eaſy and familiar with the ladies; in their learned parties, he was a profound critic, and gave his opinion of authors with the ſame freedom as if he had read and underſtood them.

What a fatality attends thoſe unhappy people, who know the uſe of pen, ink, and paper, and employ them for the entertainment or inſtruction of mankind, to be arraign'd at the tribunal of Ignorance and Folly, and to be curſed with the compliments of wretches, whoſe approbation is ſufficient to damn the beſt publication in the literary world.

If an houſe was to be new furniſh'd, the captain was always conſulted, and he directed the choice of the furniture by the rule and elegance of his politer fancy .... Upon the ſtrength of his ſuperior refinement, he ventur'd to accuſe his landlord for want of taſte, becauſe he would not conſent to cover the captain's white walls with green paper.

If an houſe were to be built, he was the Vitruvius to project the plan .... in ſhort, he was every thing but what he ought to be.

He ſhewed a military capacity in beſieging a lady, whoſe heavy metal being compounded of the ſame materials he formerly dealt in himſelf, made the conqueſt appear leſs difficult, from the advantage of knowing her trim and elevation,

tion, and tho' at firſt ſhe deſpis'd his attempts, his approaches were ſo regular, and his attacks were ſo formidable, that by a *coup de maitre* he enter'd her foſſee, carry'd her upper-works, and made himſelf maſter of all her paſſes, that in ſpite of her reſiſtance ſhe was oblig'd at laſt to ſurrender at diſcretion .... I hope now he is in poſſeſſion, he will treat the commanding officer of the garriſon with the generoſity ſhe deſerves, as well for her perſonal merit, as in conſideration of the plunder.

He is now a man of little fortune, but of great importance .... but notwithſtanding his circumſtances are chang'd for the better, nevertheleſs his condition is alter'd for the worſe .... his late ſucceſs has rais'd him above himſelf, but unluckily it is not ſufficient to eſtabliſh his

his conſequence .... He has undertaken a character, unfurniſh'd with the requiſites to ſupport it; therefore his conduct, however pleaſing to himſelf, muſt be diſguſtful to the reſt of mankind .... He ſinks by venturing out of his depth.

Polite education qualifies a man for the ſocial duties of life ... it enlarges his ideas to the management of a conſiderable fortune, and reſtrains them within the narrow bounds of a ſmall one .... it recommends munificence in the diſpoſition of the firſt .... œconomy in the conduct of the latter .... it gives propriety to all his actions ... but the want of it puts a man out of his way, and renders him incapable of making a figure in either.

Captain Thunderbolt, not having the advantages of a polite education, is miſtaken

taken in his plan, he attempts to flutter in a light he ſhould endeavour to avoid, or like the injudicious moth in the candle, he will deſtroy himſelf in the blaze.

If the captain would be content to walk in the path nature has allotted him, he would be reſpected by every one, but as he knows not himſelf, he is known but to very few, and diſregarded by all.

As many people are too fond of applying characters, when deformity is the diſtinguiſhing part of them, I make no doubt but there are many who will find out a likeneſs for this; and it is not ſo much to be wondered at, as ſo many take pains to fit for their pictures .... but as I do not profeſs myſelf a portrait painter, I am not furniſh'd with particular ſubjects; all my ſketches are taken from a general

idea of the virtues and vices of mankind.

Therefore, if by chance there ſhould be a man arch enough to apply the above character, he ought to be corrected for his ingenuity; and if any one ſhould be weak enough to bring it home to himſelf, I ſhall be recompenc'd for my trouble, and he will be puniſh'd for his folly.

CHAP. XVIII.

An anodyne, or compoſing draught, to be taken going to reſt.

AH, ah, Mr. Schiſm, not over with you yet! and my father attentive to the ſame amuſement as when we left him .... lucky enough, ſo that we have miſs'd

miſs'd nothing by viſiting captain Thunderbolt, unleſs it is the captain's eſteem, who perhaps would have readily diſpens'd with the compliment.

My father revis'd the bill of fare with particular attention, and was very much ſatisfy'd with the contents; it ſeem'd to want not a ſingle circumſtance to recommend it more to the palate of a true-born Engliſhman! Suicide! aſſaſſination! fire and ſword were extravagantly diſplay'd .... Pleaſing barbarities!

Such cruel exordiums, publiſh'd at the corner of every ſtreet, was formerly a theatrical device, which never fail'd to anſwer the purpoſe deſign'd, for a crowded houſe was always the conſequence of it.

Nothing betrays an unnatural diſpoſition in the Engliſh more, than this longing after inhumanities .... it ſhews an enmity in the mind, and conveys an idea very unfavourable to our animal operations.

It is not confined to the play-houſes, but the itinerant pamphleteers, thoſe retailers of prodigies, reap alſo a benefit from it; to procure a quick return for their flimſy commodities, they clap their left hand to their left ear, and bellow out with ſtrange vociferation. A true and particular account, of a horrid, barbarous, bloody and inhuman murder, that was committed on the body, *&c. &c.* and I will venture to ſay, theſe Grub-ſtreet authors get more by ſuch cruel inventions, from the publiſhers at Amen-corner, than Dr. Hill (for his Reply to

Bolin-

Bolinbroke's Philoſophy) receiv'd from the whole body of divinity.

The people of Ireland, rather more ſavage than the Engliſh, improve the hint, by uſing the moſt ſanguine epithets upon almoſt every occaſion, and the hawkers of daily newſpapers, with a note of voice peculiar to thoſe unciviliz'd gentry, alarm ſtrangers who (either on buſineſs or from curioſity) viſit their country, with the hideous cry of "Bloody news, "bloody news, in the laſt night's packet" .... In a moment every ſtreet re-bellows with the horrid tumult .... that you would think there had been a ſecond maſſacre of the Proteſtants .... ſtart from your bed .... tremble, and wonder how you have eſcaped the bloody poignard.

Ye men of deep reſearches inform me why this ſhew of barbariſm ſhould be countenanc'd in England .... a country moſt diſtinguiſhable for its humanity?

Is it conſtitutional? .... the veſtiges of barbarous antiquity, thoſe jarring principles bequeathed us by our ſavage anceſtors? a mixture of Daniſh, Saxon, and Norman incivility, which ſtill riots in our blood, and is the previous fermentation to a more generous refinement?

Be it ſo ... and till the mind is arriv'd to that ſtate of perfection, diſmiſs every inclination that may retard its accompliſhment, and you will no longer wear the badge of malevolence.

Theatrical managers, as well in the country as in town, will drop ſuch pitiful

ful inducements .... newſmongers will luckily ſave their lungs .... your ears will be no more aſſaulted, nor your ſpirits agitated by the hideous cry of blood unſpilt.

Believe me, we have been long ſinking in the opinion of ſtrangers, it is from this opinion that ſtrangers of fortune will not venture among us .... I am confident this practical barbarity does not proceed from a cruel diſpoſition, but entirely from a paltry conceit, a ridiculous affectation of incivility! .... Bluſh not in time to come to explode this unſeemly faſhion .... this ſhew of cruelty .... diſmiſs from your thoughts ſuch low intemperate deſires .... ſuch ſeeming baſeneſs, and whatever the feelings of your hearts may be, at leaſt have policy enough to conceal the dictates of ſo bad a prompter,

ter, that in the end you may deceive yourſelf into the practice of humanity, and change thoſe affectations into real virtues.

There was a law in Attica to oblige the Athenians to put the bewilder'd traveller in his way, and to be hoſpitable to ſtrangers .... I hope we want no ſuch compulſive law to force us to the obſervance of our common duty .... Nature impoſes the rule of our actions; therefore do not ſeem to abrogate her gentle commands by a conceited malevolence.

Be courteous to the friendleſs foreigner, and deſpiſe him not becauſe he is poorer than thyſelf, perhaps his poverty may make thee rich; for the minions of fortune are ſeldom found remarkably induſtrious,

duſtrious, and induſtry is the parent of wealth.

Commiſerate the wretch in the extremity of want, without waiting to be a witneſs of his diſtreſs .... be diligent in ſeeking out thoſe pleading advocates for pity, hunger and old age ſinking with cold and infirmities, periſhing unknown, unheeded; be quick in your relief, nor ſuffer them to ſhiver at your door, begging with tearful eyes a ſcanty pittance .... Let not the helpleſs orphan cry in vain for aſſiſtance.

Every diſtreſsful object ſighing thro' the ſtreets, and groaning beneath a load of miſery, is a dreadful teſtimony that the ſame ſpecies of corruption which ambitiouſly ſoars to infect thoſe men, who from royal confidence have the delegated

power

power to diſpenſe the public treaſure, has alſo humility to deſcend to thoſe worthy officers who are entruſted with the diſpoſition of parochial munificence; the end of both is perverted to the purpoſes of enriching the one, and feaſting the other.

Every lurking vagabond is a very material witneſs againſt thoſe worſhipful gentlemen, who are appointed to execute impartially the laws of this kingdom .... ſalutary in their purpoſes .... their effects otherwiſe .... for juſtice is become a trade, and the profits of the vocation prevent theſe peace-brokers from cutting off thoſe buds of iniquity, which, in time, ſhoot up, and become a a valuable commodity in the ſhops of theſe retailers of warrants, *&c. &c.* Almoſt every ſtreet in our great metropolis

produces

produces an evidence to verify and ſupport this charge, and the many very young pick-pockets who are daily committed prove the conſequence.

Boys ſhould be corrected for playing in the ſtreets, to prevent their keeping worſe company than themſelves ... Young thieves ſhould not be kept in the ſame priſon with old ones, leſt they ſhould improve in wickedneſs, from the inſtructions of experience.

Women, who from an eaſy compliance to the frauds and ſubtilties of mankind, are doom'd to walk the ſtreets for a wretched ſubſiſtence, call aloud for our protection .... We ought not to forget they were once the object of our tendereſt thoughts .... now deſerted by their own ſex, and (ſhame to ſay it) abandon'd

don'd by ours .... Surely they deſerve our compaſſion, notwithſtanding they have forfeited, by their imprudence, every claim to our admiration .... We ſhould endeavour, by our advice and aſſiſtance, either to reclaim them or at leaſt to eaſe their afflictions, and not ſuffer them to be expos'd to the mercy of ſome unfeeling magiſtrate, who by an injudicious exertion of prerogative, may ſend forth a cruel mandate, either to ſatisfy a rapacious goalor, or gratify his own avarice, or perhaps both, to ſeize thoſe unhappy wretches, drag them from the only means left them to obtain a livelihood, and conſign the miſerable victims to the horrors of a priſon, there to ſuffer in proportion as they may want money or friends to buy off the penalty.

The ſcale of juſtice is even .... Why then ſhould a magiſtrate, upon theſe extraordinary occaſions, diſturb the equilibration by an unbecoming partiality? .... their crime is common .... their puniſhment ſhould be the ſame .... it is not the appearance of a friend, or the more perſuaſive appearance of a little money can take away from the offence .... for my part, I ſhould extend my favour to thoſe who were in want of both; becauſe they apparently tranſgreſs thro' neceſſity .... but thoſe who have aſſiſtance in themſelves, or from their friends, may turn their minds and their bodies to ſome more eligible employment .... but according to the modern ſyſtem of juſtice, poverty aggravates the guilt ... affluence ſoftens it .... therefore the wretched muſt ſubmit to the mode of the times, and ſuffer the penalty of their wretchedneſs;

neſs .... the more proſperous may hold out a little longer, till extravagance has waſted their ſubſtance, and time worn out their friends.

Theſe ſearch-warrants ſeem to me of very dangerous and deſtructive tendency, and cannot in the leaſt degree anſwer the deſign of reformation; on the contrary, they inflame the wound, and render what was before dangerous, quite incurable.

Let us trace the proceſs of the remedy, and obſerve how it operates.

An unhappy girl is taken out of the ſtreets, and for want of friends to appear, or money to pantomime in her favour, is hurried to gaol, where ſhe remains as long as the laſt remnant of her ſcanty wardrobe will procure her the means

means to ſatisfy the exorbitancies of her keeper .... when the laſt rag is torn from her ſides, and her poverty becomes an incumberance, ſhe is ſent again into the world, in a much more deplorable condition, than when ſhe fell into the hands of the reforming officers ....What is to be done for her? .... Who will receive her? .... What can ſhe do for herſelf? .... Her former trade of proſtitution is injured for want of the neceſſary appearance to recommend her, and ſhe can have no encouragement to purſue any other; .... She muſt now aſſociate with the baſeſt of mankind, who maintain one vice by the practice of another .... and as ſhe is engaged in their debaucheries, ſhe alſo engages in their ſchemes to ſupport them, and from an under-graduate in vice, riſes to the degree of miſtreſs, ſtill advancing, till ſhe

arrives

arrives to the altitude of infamy, the head of the moſt deſtructive ſeminary for the ſtudy and improvement of every ſpecies of wickedneſs .... Thus having taken poſſeſſion of her new eſtate, ſhe, by the authority of the law, changes her former name of an honeſt unfortunate girl, to an harden'd, profligate, thieving ſtrumpet .... It is from ſuch abandon'd creatures proceeds that corruption of manners which we experience daily in the lower claſs of people, and but for ſuch people the office of juſtice of peace would ſoon become an unprofitable ſinecure, and then few would be ſolicitous for the honour of it.

To give ſome check to the evil complain'd of, I would recommend the magiſtrates to take up the moſt flagitious, and order them immediate correction,

to

to remind them the peace muſt be preſerv'd .... but for the gentler ſort, permit them to follow their miſerable occupation, till the legiſlature has thought of ſome method to diſpoſe of them for the uſe of mankind (in the prevention of more unnatural crimes) and leſs offenſive to the order and regularity of ſociety.

This is one of the many cruelties which ſtigmatize the Engliſh nation, and if you ſhould be deſirous to know the reſt, I will pull out my liſt that your curioſity may be ſatisfy'd, and your mind kept no longer in ſuſpence.

A tragedy, wrote with every circumſtance that can excite horror or diſtreſs, is ſure to command a crouded audience! .... When the vileſt criminals are to be hang'd, the law is ſatisfy'd, and many

thouſand people are entertain'd with the execution! .... It requires great intereſt to obtain a ticket for a peer's trial, and if his lordſhip ſhould luckily be condemn'd, the day of execution is not only a holyday for two thirds of the nobility, but even Labour deſerts the poſt of Induſtry to enjoy the dreadful ſpectacle! .... Bull-baiting finds its admirers! .... and the ſpirit of a cockpit is ſupported by gentlemen of the firſt rank in the kingdom! .... Hunting is conſider'd by moſt as the higheſt entertainment, but as Thompſon tenderly expreſſes it;

Poor is the conqueſt o'er the timid hare.

And a ſtag, the moſt beautiful of all animals, after being worry'd for many hours, is at laſt torn to pieces by the dogs, and happieſt are they who can be preſent at the dreadful ſlaughter.

When

When theſe calamitous abuſes are redreſs'd, and fictitious barbarity (if allow'd) acted upon the ſtage to empty rows, then foreigners of diſtinction will no longer be afraid of viſiting you; which will encreaſe your manufactures, enrich and add credit to your country .... you will then be honour'd for your wealth ..... ador'd for your humanity, and reſpected for your conſtitutional government .... Engliſh hoſpitality will become a proverb .... their reſolution and generoſity be admir'd by every nation.

I hope the intent of this digreſſion will apologize for the intruſion, and can only lament, that the intemperate pleaſures of youth, or the unſkilful practice of the ſurgeon, ſhould have curtain'd the eyes of juſtice from beholding and profiting by my inſtructions.

And I have too much reaſon to fear, the repeated leſſons of morality have given us a ſurfeit for the wholſome things in this life, therefore I would adviſe my readers in general (who may be conſidered as ſo many particular friends) to avoid ſwallowing ſo frequently ſuch nauſeous potions of pious admonitions; for if I may offer my obſervation and advice upon this occaſion, poetically,

The beſt of things, when often us'd,
Are but too often much abus'd;
Therefore good counſel take but rare,
Leſt it offend thy virtuous ear.

What a rhapſody of nonſenſical dulneſs is all this, ſaith my nodding readers .... very true .... but there muſt be a due proportion of light and ſhade in the finiſhing a good picture: beſides, as the

the rapacious critic feeds upon offals, it becomes neceſſary to provide ſome carrion for the vultures to prey upon; for it is the intereſt of every author to be upon terms with ſuch devouring monſters .... as the ancients thought it concern'd their ſafety to offer a ſacrifice to the devil, or the modern pagans in worſhipping their enemy Squantum.

CHAP. XIX.

The want of curioſity very fatal.

BUT not to loſe the clue which muſt direct us through the labyrinth of this motley expedition, chequer'd with ſuch a ſtrange variety of incidents, which (though true) muſt, I fear, wear the grimace

mace of fallacy, and be eſteem'd the work of invention by the incredulous and obſtinate, yet I flatter myſelf every chriſtian reader, whoſe infancy has luckily eſcaped the anti-chriſtian knife, will give credit to my veracity, and let the words of my pen paſs current.

To proceed on our intended journey, we will leave awhile my father to his amuſements, and return to our old acquaintance the reverend Mr. Schiſm, who all this time was diverting himſelf with his fair apoſtate .... for he, good man, found diverſion in good deeds ..... but alas! misfortune often treads upon the heels of the righteous, and the virtuous man cannot always ſecure himſelf againſt the invenom'd ſhafts of affliction, which fly promiſcuous, and wound without diſtinction.

Kind

Kind reader, whoſe kindneſs firſt led you into the company of Mr. Schiſm, as you have often laugh'd with him in his proſperity, it would be moſt ungenerous in you not to ſympathize with him in his diſtreſſes ... Prepare then to weep .... to him enjoyment makes a melancholy pauſe .... he, poor man, in the fury of his zeal, when cool deliberate reaſon left the tumult (for reaſon ſeldom interferes with zeal) promis'd to himſelf eternal felicity; but no ſooner had he executed his purpoſe, but the tranſitory bliſs fled from him .... Paſſion ſubſided .... Reaſon return'd, and ſad Reflection took her turn to reign.

Every man who acts upon ſuch principles may form an idea of his ſituation; and I dare ſay (if they will venture to own it) they are not ſurpris'd at his uneaſineſs,

eaſineſs, for amazement muſt ceaſe with every one, when he conſiders, that altho' he employ'd himſelf in a work approv'd of by thoſe of his own robe, ſtill he neglected a very important buſineſs, the buneſs he was entruſted with .... In ſhort, many things concurr'd to make him wretched, and diſagreeable to himſelf.

After having adjuſted his canonicals, he left the room full of deſpondence.... deſcended the ſtairs in a more ſlow and ſolemn pace than he was obſerv'd to go up them .... all his faculties weaken'd and abſorb'd; and, to ſpeak truth, the outward man was not ſo erect as you may ſuppoſe him ſome few hours before, for the nature of his labour and fatigues had wonderfully alter'd him .... from the furious enthuſiaſt, enflam'd with zeal for the cauſe, he was become as dull and

as tame as matrimonial ſatiety .... a ſettled melancholy clouded his aſpect .... but his ſpirits were quick'ned with his fears, when upon enquiry he found, his hopeful ward had wander'd nobody knew where.

Who can picture out the diſtreſſes of this miſerable object .... he was far worſe than a criminal going to be hanged; for he, poor wretch, ſaw no end to his afflictions.

He diſpatched every two-footed animal he met with in the inn to ſeek him .... they returned .... and fruitleſs was their ſearch .... at length his own ſuſpicions led him to the play .... when, O direful news .... he was informed that his charge had fallen in love with the empreſs .... that he was enamoured with

with her brilliant appearance, and not to deviate from his great purpoſe, had married her in all the ſplendid trumpery, in all the blaze of theatrical properties, and with her borrow'd plumes hurried away to London in a poſt chaiſe.

Leſt my reader ſhould not be as wiſe as Mr. Garrick or myſelf, I muſt here explain that theatrical properties are ornaments of ſuch vaſt importance to the heroes and heroines of the ſtage, that I have known Belvidera rob a philoſopher of his priſm, to ſhatter into little ſtars for her breaſt; and the chaſte Ophelia lie with an hoſtler for a coronet of ſtraw for her diſtracted head :. . . but I refer to the committee of managers, at their counſel chamber in Covent-Garden, who are better ſkilled in this ſort of mummery, for a further explanation.

The

The perſon who gave this information was, in truth, no other than the manager of this little company, who had juſt ſent an officer in purſuit of them, with a proper authority from the civil magiſtrate to ſecure them both; for the Roman matron had (for the firſt time) ſullied her reputation, which before was always conſidered (by thoſe who did not know to the contrary) pure and immaculate, and had forfeited her honour by going away with her maſter's cloaths, without the leaſt ceremony .... and Mr. Whim the manager, ſwore that he ſhould look upon the young man as an accomplice in the robbery.

Poor Mr. Schiſm was now quite abandoned .... loſt to every joy .... conflicting paſſions rend his mind .... every recurring circumſtance aggravated his diſtreſs

diſtreſs .... thus tumultuated he repaired to his inn ....: exclaiming againſt the wild impetuoſity of youth :.... their headſtrong pride .... their contempt of uſeful knowledge, but chiefly their want of curioſity, which, he proteſted, with great ſolemnity, was the occaſion of all the unforeſeen, unhappy accidents that had befallen; for, ſaid he, (with tears in his eyes) this untoward youth was ſo devoid of curioſity, that he knew not the ſign belonging to the inn he put up at! .... Fatal deficiency.

You, whoſe civilized genius can temper wit with humanity, and ſoften a jeſt with good humour, rally not the doctor for this weak remonſtrance, rather chuſe to preſerve the *jeu d' eſprit* for thoſe curious travellers, whoſe lordly inheritance gives them pre-eminence, and compliments

their

their preſcription with the practice .... whoſe contempt of improvement is faſhionable, and their profeſſed ignorance politeneſs, who neglect to enquire after the trade and manufacture of capital towns and cities they hurry through, and return with no other knowledge, but that the Orkney Arms is a damned good houſe, near Maidenhead .... and that the beſt Inn at Marlborough is the Caſtle.... Important acquiſition! ..... And by boaſting of the vaſt ſums of money expended at each, convince the ſenſible world, that their heads are as empty as their purſes .... this ſort of knowledge conſtitutes a material part of modern polite education.

The doctor, after collecting his little wealth, went to bed .... not with an intent to ſleep, for affliction ſeldom keeps ſuch

ſuch inanimate company, but to conſider, like a provident miniſter, of ways and means to defend himſelf from the impending ſhock, which threatened his deſtruction.

After contemplating amidſt the impenetrable ſhade of night, no other expedient occurred, than a precipitate retreat from England, for notwithſtanding the innocency of his heart, and the powers of face, he could not arm the one, or ſet the other againſt his friends, who recommended him, and his patron who employed him; therefore, no ſooner had the morning's dawn expelled the horrid gloom, but he aroſe, and put his deſign in execution .... he departed without even ſighing a kind adieu to his amorous veſtal, or taking the neceſſary and expected farewel of his landlady, but left

his

his name in pledge for the reckoning ... this ſort of parſimony, I am informed, is frequently adopted by men of gallantry and ſpirit, and according to the idea we have of ſuch gentlemen, it is a maxim very conſiſtent with their character.

There remains two people to be ſatisfy'd, the woman of the houſe for the good things ſhe furniſh'd the doctor with, ... and Mrs. Margery, who contributed all in her power to raiſe and maintain his ſpiritual function, without having receiv'd the common recompence for her compliance .... the firſt muſt wound his mind as an honeſt man .... the latter muſt leave a ſcar upon the reputation of his charity and munificence .... but the genius of the times will nevertheleſs give countenance to ſuch truant diſpoſitions, heal the one, and hide the deformity of the other.

Farewel,

Farewel, good Mr. Schiſm .... fare thee well, thou indefatigable man .... induſtrious to thy ruin! .... Thoſe who are his friends may, without offence, wiſh him a good journey, and ſucceſs in his future adventures .... And for you, who perchance may think his conduct reproachable, as chriſtians forgive him, and pray for his reformation .... for who knows, but in the purſuit of this journey, you may meet again upon the road.

CHAP. XX.

An Introduction.

FASHION reconciles itſelf to the moſt monſtrous diſproportions, and tempts weak minds to conſent to the moſt prepoſterous abſurdities ... It pre--

vail'd

vail'd on me (as you may ſee by the frontiſpiece) at my firſt ſetting out in life to conform to the times .... the hair which fell ſimply upon my forehead by the diſpoſition of nature, was now lifted up, like the model of an Egyptian pyramid, which ſo put me out of countenance, that I neither knew myſelf, or was known by my friends .... this voluntary alienation was ſuch a ſhock to my underſtanding, that I forſook every path that ſeem'd to lead to the cauſe of it; and to be as much out of the way as poſſible, I have forſook the faſhionable preface at the beginning of every book, to place at the end of mine, a

POSTSCRIPT.

IN this and the ſubſequent volumes I ſhall conſider myſelf in no higher rank .... but you may think as favourably of me as you pleaſe .... than a broker in Moorfields, where every man may fit the likeneſs of himſelf and his friends, with the ſame eaſe and readineſs as he may fit his body at a faleſman's in Rag-fair. But as fancy is conſulted in the choice of one, ſo the ſtrength of imagination muſt aſſiſt in the aſſimilation of the other.

You muſt not expect to find in me the laborious genealogiſt, who is to climb up the mountain of antiquity to ſnatch from the flood ſome very low people .... or to

to explore the ſhadowy vale of penury and want, to lead from obſcurity the moſt ſplendid characters, who like ſtars in the firmament ſhine brighter from being ſet in the dark.

Believe me, I do not mean to trace the particular deſcent of all the great perſonages I ſhall from time to time introduce to your acquaintance; you muſt be ſatisfy'd when I tell you, that the Sapſkulls are a numerous family, and there is no doubt but many Sir Bartholomews may be met with in the circle of faſhion, though very few to be found in company with men of rank; I mean ſuch men who mark their diſtinction by ſupporting their dignity, and illuſtrate their birth and ſtation, by ſentiments and actions worthy of both.

Upon looking into the compoſition of a mere man of faſhion, I have as often amus'd myſelf with thinking if Providence (for nature has but little to do with them) had given me a patent for the ſole making and vending ſuch creatures, I ſhould have more trouble than profit, and the materials I ſhould have occaſion for would be equally whimſical as extraordinary .... In forming theſe plaiſter of Paris figures in my imagination, I have proportion'd the ingredients by weight .... I firſt ſuppoſe theſe papillaceous reptiles (as they are a light commodity) to weigh no more than ſeven ſtone, including their dreſs, which has all the gravity of Gallic magnificence.

We will begin with the head, it being the capital of the human column:

Pomatum and powder, 8 ounces.

The

The toupee, a prepoſterous ornament, 6 ounces.

Filth and naſtineſs (as theſe delicate gentlemen ſeldom ſuffer a comb to ſlay their heads) 6 ounces.

Brains (it has been doubted whether they have any) a ſcruple.

The *dura* and *pia mater*, the two ſolid membranes which ſhut up the brains, 10 ounces.

The *cerebellum* .... the feeble ſupport of the brain, being of a thin texture in faſhionable heads, weighs no more than one-fourth of an ounce.

The *medulla oblongata*, and the *meduila ſpinalis*, which direct the nerves, as they are of moſt weight in weak minds, amount to ſixteen ounces.

True animal ſpirits, a drachm.

The heart ... much contracted, one-half ounce.

Bowels, little or none; but as there is much wind in the ventricle, we will put down 6 ounces.

Bones, 18 lb.

Fleſh, 6 lb.

Muſcles, one-half ounce.

N. B. What preponderates moſt in the compoſition of theſe ſort of things, and which proceeds from the quick circulation of wind thro' the *aſpera arteria*, are,

Affectation ... deceit ... vanity ... pride ... impudence, of each an equal quantity, 20 lb.

Ignorance, an heavy commodity, weighs as much as all together, 20 lb.

And the dreſs being of more importance than all the reſt makes up the difference.

Ambition, which of late years has ſneak'd into the minds, I mean into the joles

joles of the opulent vulgar, and betray'd them into a certain expence, for a very pitiful conſideration .... for if we allow them, upon ſome obſequious occaſions, an uncommon emotion of pleaſure from the inward approbation of their ſuperior conſequence ... yet there are times when their pride muſt be exceedingly mortify'd, to behold their dignity held in deriſion by people even of their own claſs, and their vanity the jeſt and ridicule of every man of good family .... and their folly pity'd by every man of good ſenſe ..... However, this paſſion for titles plainly evinces, there are more Naturals than my friend Nehemiah ſprinkled up and down this huge metropolis, between Palace-yard, Weſtminſter, and Ratcliffe-highway.

I would not be underſtood here, that I mean to give inheritance an excluſive right to honours; on the contrary, as a motive to virtue I could wiſh that every vagabond of quality was to forfeit his rank, upon his departing from the way which firſt led to the acquiſition of it.... And I further think there are many men, whoſe anceſtors were unknown to heraldry, have a very juſt pretenſion to be the founders of their family, and a right to thoſe armorial diſtinctions which embelliſh the arms of the proudeſt peer in the kingdom .... I mean thoſe men who have done honour to their country by ſome glorious action in the ſervice of it .... and thoſe whoſe ſuperior abilities, and uncourtly integrity, are an ornament and advantage to their king and country. Such patriots deſerve every diſtinction of honour and reſpect, which power and

gratitude

gratitude can laviſh upon mankind .... Honours, thus acquir'd, ſhine out with an untarniſh'd luſtre .... but when titles are conferr'd on men of mean capacities, the honour counteracts the intent, and inſtead of making them great, makes them ridiculous.

I will indulge you for once, and lug out from my poetical hoards an epitaph upon one of 'ſquire Natural's family, who to the ſhame of himſelf, and honour of his poſterity, lived a ſtone-cutter, and died a baronet!

And as an epitaph is generally a complimental inſcription on a tomb-ſtone over a dead body .... I hope the body this is upon, will not be ſo quick as to riſe in judgment againſt the deſign of it.

Beneath this ſtone reſts H—— C——
A knight and baronet;
And had not honours been ſo dear,
He'd bought a coronet!

His pride was under no command,
Though but a lowly maſon!
Ambition bought the bloody hand,
To mark the man of faſhion.

From nothing did the knight proceed,
His daily bread he earn'd:
And yeſterday (ſo fate decreed)
To nothing he return'd.

Sic tranſit *Gloria mundi.*

As I ſet no value upon my compliments, I do not expect ſo much for compoſing the epitaph and deſigning the tomb-ſtone, as the deceas'd had for inventing and finiſhing a chimney piece.

That a ſchool-maſter ſhould be a blockhead is nothing ſo very ſingular, conſidering how they are treated by the world in general .... but that they ſhould be otherwiſe is not to be diſputed ... for the perſon who undertakes the arduous taſk of forming the minds of young people, is the moſt reſpectable character in life, and ought to be treated with a degree of veneration proportion'd to the importance of his charge .... I ſhall give you the true portrait of a ſchool-maſter, according to my idea of that character, in a ſubſequent volume .... till then we muſt be ſatisfy'd with the conduct of Mr. Sciolus, in hopes that he may improve himſelf

ſelf from the example I ſhall ſet before him.

Every governor is not poſſeſs'd of that intrepid virtue, thoſe confident abilities, which arm'd Mr. ——— with a reſolution to improve thoſe youths of faſhion intruſted to his care, in ſpight of their parents ill-judg'd tenderneſs and deſtructive partiality .... Mr. Schiſm, it may be obſerv'd, like many in his ſituation, conſulted his own pleaſures too much, and the advantage of his pupil too little .... A man, choſen for this important ſervice, ſhould be a man of temper .... of addreſs ..... of reſolution ..... He ſhould have a thorough knowledge of the world, and be a perfect maſter of the Engliſh language .... thus qualify'd, he would win his pupil's affections by his good humour .... improve his manners, and introduce him to the beſt company

by

by his politeneſs .... keep him to his ſtudies, to his exerciſes, and reſtrain him in his pleaſures by his firmneſs .... His acquaintance with the world will point out the quick ſands which encompaſs it, and endanger the paſſage, and the knowledge of his own language muſt eſſentially accompliſh him for the moſt momentous concerns .... I have pointed out the duties of a young traveller, the advantage that muſt neceſſarily attend an obſervance of them, and the diſgrace that muſt follow the neglect of them, in a former part of this work.

Amongſt the many extraordinary occurrences in the tranſactions of mankind, there is nothing very ſingular that young Mr. Sapſkull ſhould be enamour'd of an actreſs, and venture to engage in a ſerious party of conjugal pleaſure with her .... An intimate friend of mine, one of

the

the Sapſkull family, when his underſtanding and his paſſions were at variance, fell in love with a play-thing of the ſame complexion and ſignificance as Madam Weepwell; and in order (as he vainly thought) to ſecure the toy to himſelf, purchas'd the bauble at the expence of his honour, his fortune, and his peace of mind; for ſhe, in reward of his raſhneſs and folly, ornamented his head with a pair of horns, to raiſe his conſequence to the likeneſs of Jupiter Ammon, the uſual paraphernalia beſtow'd by ſuch ſort of ladies, who, though neglectful of their huſbands body, take good care to provide for their ſouls; as ſuch god-like embelliſhments are ever conſider'd as a certain paſſport to the regions of bliſs.... from whence ariſes the old ſaying, That cuckolds go to heaven.

I have ſo great a regard for the civil con-

conſtitution of my country, and for the magiſtrates who are commiſſion'd to preſerve it, that my indignation riſes in proportion to my eſteem, when I ſee any abuſe creep in to leſſen the influence of ſo reſpectable an office.

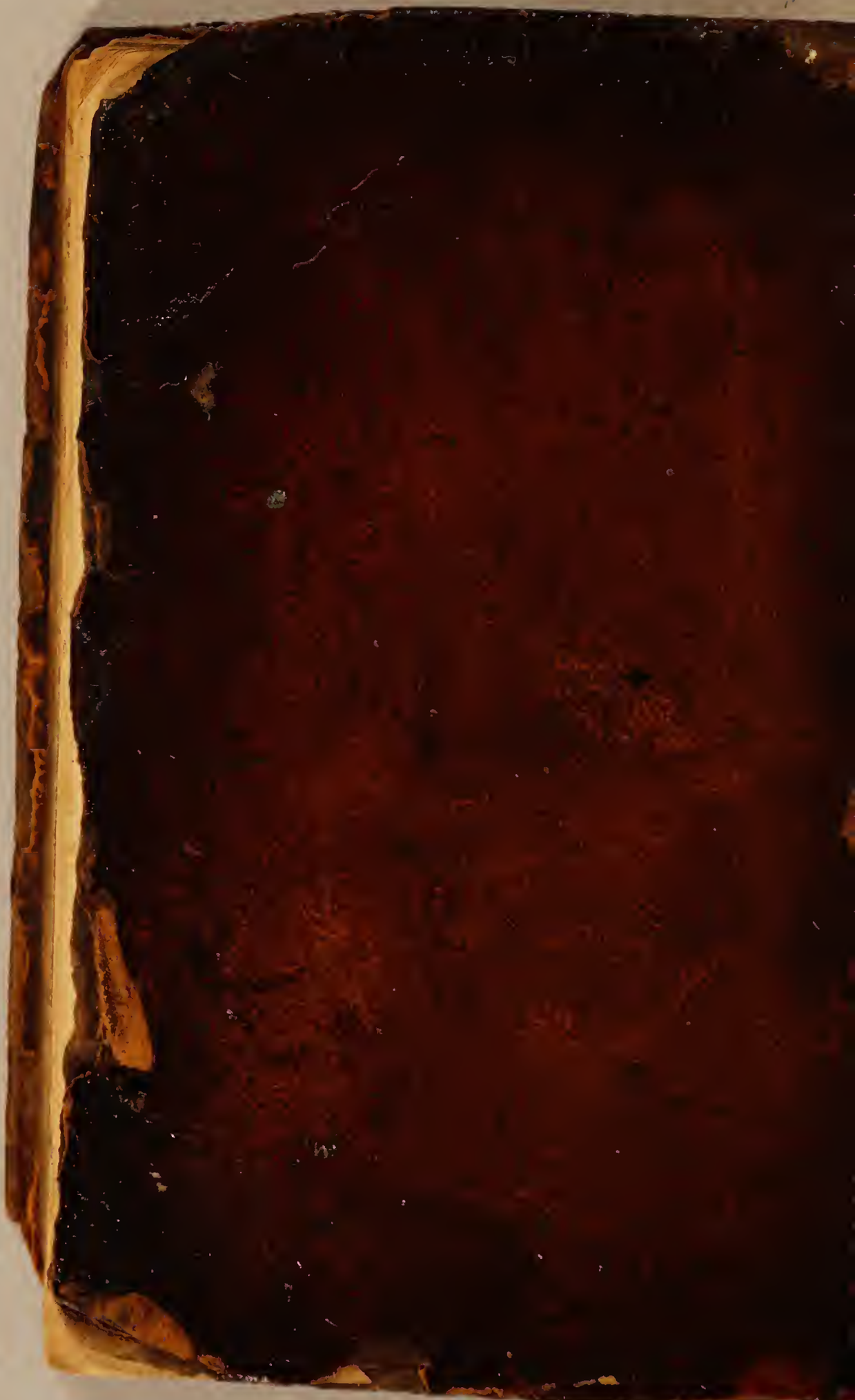
Men, in the meaner occupations of life, are not calculated to fill up the dignity of ſuch a ſtation: it abates my veneration when I ſee a man deſcend from the ſeat of authority, and demean himſelf to the employment of weighing out a quartern of the worſt bohea.

His worſhip *Papier Maché* may underſtand the meaſure of a room; but it cannot be ſuppos'd he has been much inſtructed in the meaſure of juſtice; beſides, if I ſerve his intereſt at one ſhop, he cannot do leſs than ſecure my reputation and liberty, from his influence at the other.

I can-

I cannot help thinking but there muſt be ſome miſtake from the figure of juſtice, and that our right honourable L—— L—— ſuppoſe, that her emblematical ladyſhip carrying the ſcales, indicates that ſhe kept a chandler's ſhop, and therefore to aſſimilate the profeſſion of modern juſtice to the trade of the old lady, they aſſociate in the commiſſion all the petty grocers and huckſters about town.

If I could be aſſur'd your patience was equal to my pleaſure, I could dwell much longer upon the propriety of my performance; but I will cloſe my Poſtſcript and the volume, leſt I ſhould incur the cenſure of the critics, who may ſay of me as a French wit ſaid of Monſieur Dacier, upon his tranſlation of Horace, That he had block'd up the poem with his notes.

END OF THE FIRST VOLUME.

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